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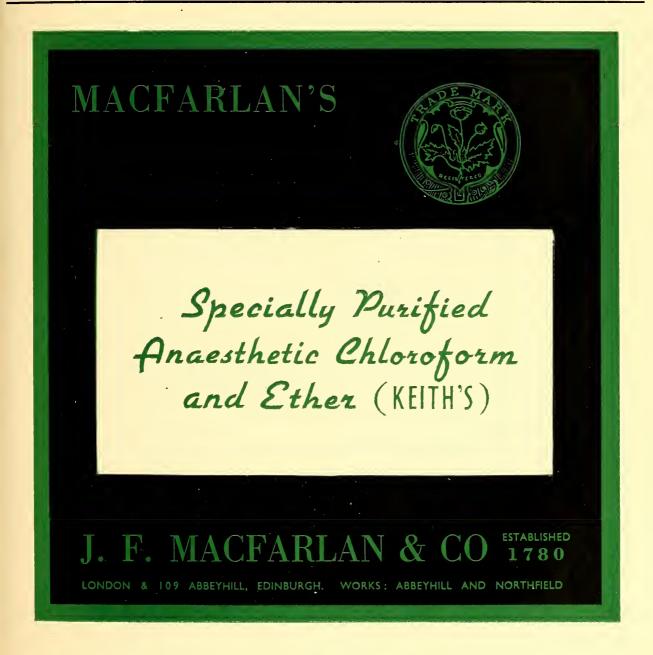
28 Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.2

Registered as a Newspaper

No. 3159 VOL.CXXXIII

AUGUST 24, 1940

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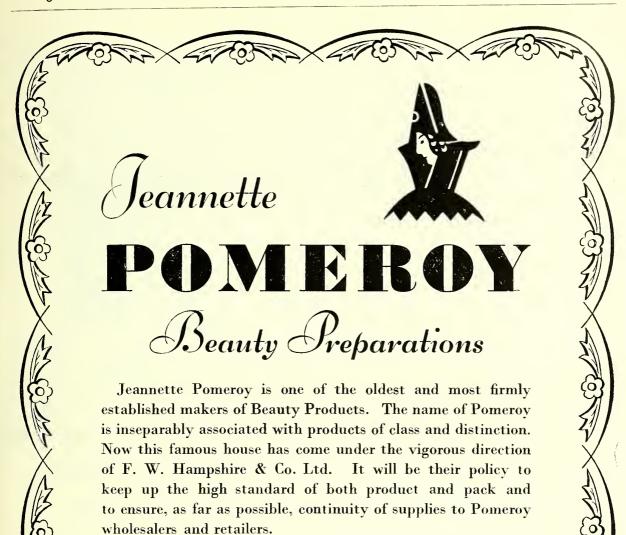
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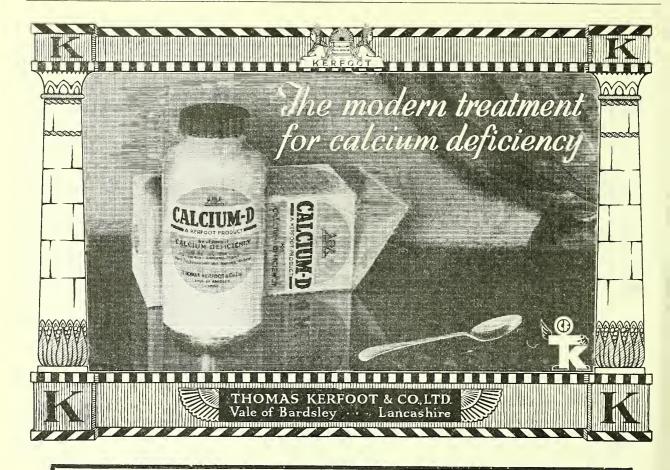
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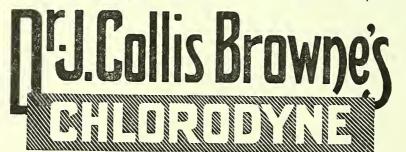
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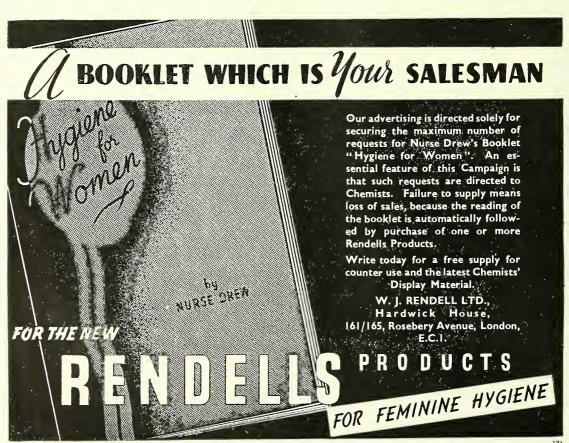


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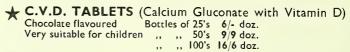
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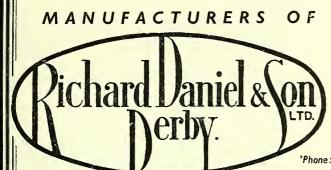
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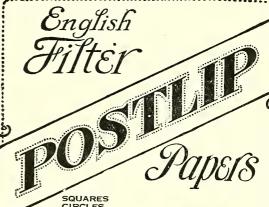


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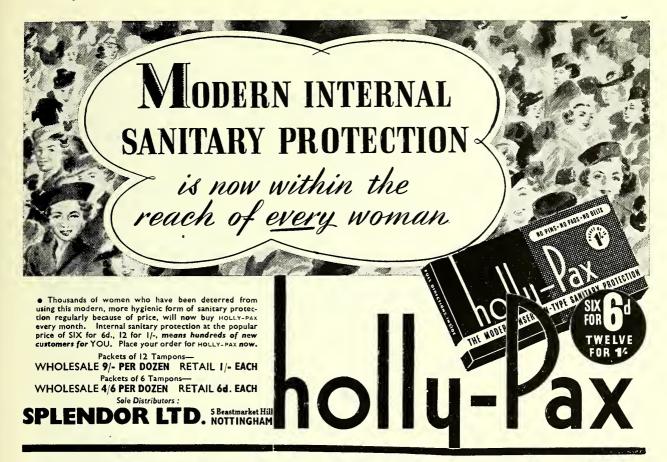
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MANUFACTURER

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NEWS OF THE WEEK

Trading with the Enemy.—The Board of Trade announce that they ave made a new Order which came into force on August 19 and which ontains 144 additions to the "black list" of traders in neutral countries ith whom it is unlawful to have dealings of any kind. Further additions vill be made in the near future. The Order has been published by H.M. tationery Office under the title of the Trading With the Enemy (Specied Persons) (Amendment) (No. 10) Order, 1940.

Enemy Trade Debts.—The procedure which will be adopted by the ommittee, set up by the Chancellor of the Exchequer for dealing with pplications for Government aid by traders with outstanding debts in nemy or enemy-occupied territories, has been announced (see C. & D., August 10, p. 71). The committee will refer to the register of debts due o persons in the United Kingdom from enemies compiled by the Board of Trade, and traders who have not already registered such debts should now do so. Those applying for advances should write to the secretary, Enemy Trade Debts Committee, Romney House, East Tufton Street, ondon, S.W.I. Advances will not exceed 50 per cent. of the amount of he debt and will be repayable not later than six months after the end of the war

Unemployment Insurance.—The Minister of Labour and National Service reminds employers and employees that under the Unemploynent Insurance Act, 1940, on September 2, non-manual workers renunerated at a rate exceeding f_2 50 but not exceeding f_4 20 a year become insurable against unemployment. Workers who will be brought nto insurance should take steps to obtain unemployment books by that late from any convenient employment exchange. The books will be available from August 19 onwards. Men of the age of sixty-five and over, and women of the age of sixty and over, who are affected by the new provisions, will be insurable at the employer's rate only. They should apply for special Class P(X) cards at a post office. Non-manual workers remunerated at a rate exceeding £250, but not exceeding £420, a year also become insurable in Norther Ireland on September 2.

Paper Restrictions.—The following are further details of the new restrictions on paper referred to in last week's issue of the C. & D.p. 77. Under the Control of Paper (No. 20) Order, which came into force on August 16, the restrictions detailed on advertising circulars do not apply to trade catalogues dispatched to wholesalers or retailers. Advertising circular" means anything composed of or containing paper and distributed in substantially identical form to more than twelve persons for purposes of advertising, but shall be deemed not to include any diary containing advertising matter on not more than eight pages thereof. No person shall produce from paper except from that specially cut or prepared for the purpose before the Order came into force any fifty-two-page calendar containing a greater weight of paper than five ounces; any daily tear-off calendar containing a greater total weight of paper than six-and-a-half ounces or having a tear-off block containing a greater weight of paper than four ounces; any other calendar containing a greater weight of paper than four ounces; any advertising showcard, advertising display card, advertising novelty, counter display or window display device; any carton designed for use as a dummy carton; any compliment slip or visiting card. "Paper' includes all descriptions (whether homogenous or laminated and whether coated or uncoated) of paper, paperboard, pulpboard, wallboard and fibreboard, which are manufactured wholly or mainly either from vegetable fibres or a pulp thereof, or both from such fibres and such pulp.

Caustic Potash and Potassium Carbonate Control.—The Minister of Supply has made an Order recently (Control of Caustic Potash and Carbonate of Potash (No. 1) Order, 1940), under which purchases by consumers of caustic potash and potassium carbonate may be made only under licence; quantities not exceeding half a ton a month are exempt. It is the intention only to licence purchases where the use of these materials is essential, and where substitution is impossible.

Application forms for licences can be obtained from the Secretary Raw Materials Department, Ministry of Supply, Shell-Mex House, Strand, London, W.C.2. Envelopes should be marked "caustic potash" or "carbonate of potash," according to the material for which application is made. Copies of the Order may be obtained from the Stationery Office, or through any bookseller. The following arrangements have been made for the purchase of caustic potash and carbonate of potash. A buying organisation has been set up, under the chairmanship of Mr. G. Marchand of the Glass Manufacturers' Federation, and is composed of representatives of the principal importing merchants and of the consumers. It will make purchases through a company with a nominal capital which is to be set up. Its purchases will be divided between merchants who can show that they held an established position as importers in the twelve months preceding the war on the basis of their actual imports during the first nine months of the war. The position of the distributing merchant who did not import will be safeguarded. Re-selling prices will be fixed in agreement with the Ministry and there will be a merchant's discount. Supplies of caustic potash and carbonate of potash will be obtainable from the importing merchants who will not undersell distributing merchants. There is no intention that the ordinary channels of this trade should be altered.

Post-Graduate Course in Physiology.—Reading Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society has made arrangements for a course of six lectures in physiology to be given by Dr. Henry Price at Newtown School, Cholmeley Road, Reading. The course will commence on School, Cholmeley Road, Reading. The September 10, at 8 p.m. The fee will be 5s.

Mutual Assistance Arrangements.—Chemists in the Plymouth area have devised a scheme of mutual assistance in the event of their premises or stock being damaged by air raids. Any chemist suffering damage must report the matter to Mr. A. G. Madge, who will bring the case before an emergency committee consisting of Mr. D. G. Hawkins, Mr. Fernley Wallis and Mr. C. Yates.—Chelmsford traders have decided to form a Mutual Air Raids Damage Fund Association.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.—Acting upon authority given him at the last meeting of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society the president has made the following awards in connexion with Memorial Scholarship, "J'Espere Toujours" (Charles Leslie Sargent, Liverpool); Leverhulme Scholarship, "Fodite pro Victoria" (Arthur Harrison, Blackburn); Manchester Pharmaceutical Association Scholarship, "Veritas Vincit" (Eirene Margaret James, Preston); Devon and Cornwall Exhibition, "Tre Pol Pen" (Thomas Henry Jacobs, Bristol). The president has also recommended the award of The Nottingham University College Studentships in Pharmacy to "Plein d'Esperance" (Lawrence Mervy Spalton, Douglas, Isle of Man) and "Semper Procedans" (John William Clark Lewis, Newport, Isle of Wight).

Birmingham Analyst's Report.—According to the report of the Birmingham analyst 1,549 samples were submitted for examination during the second quarter of this year. Of these twenty-three were taken formally. Of the total samples examined 126 were found to be incorrect, and of the 161 samples of drugs analysed, six were incorrect. A sample of colourless tincture of iodine contained 7.1 per cent. of free ammonia instead of 1.4 per cent. and 4.6 per cent. ammonium iodide instead of 3.25 per cent. Another sample taken from the same shop, contained 2.3 per cent. free ammonia and only 1.45 per cent. ammonium iodide. The vendor was cautioned. Of twenty samples taken from stocks at dispensaries under control of the public health committee, one sample of hydrogen peroxide and one of saccharated iron tablets were unfavourably reported upon and the firms concerned were cautioned. The sample of hydrogen peroxide contained only 5.4 volumes of available oxygen instead of 8 volumes. The saccharated iron tablets contained only 2.3 grains of saccharated iron carbonate per tablet instead of 4.0 grains, the remainder being in the oxidised condition

MARRIAGES

Notices for this column must be authenticated

Kay—Robson.—At the Central Methodist Church, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on August 3, William Duncan Kay, M.P.S., to Rhoda Robson. Kinnis—Simmons.—At Norton Parish Church, on August 15, John

KINNIS—SIMMONS.—At Norton Parish Church, on August 15, John Foster Kinnis, M.P.S., son of Mr. W. D. Kinnis, M.P.S., Gosforth, Newcastle-on-Tyne, to Hilda Simmons, Stockton-on-Tees.

Mackinnon—Cadger.—At Paisley, on August 6, Duncan Mackinnon, B.Sc., M.P.S., Glasgow, to Amelia A. Cadger.

DEATHS

Broderick.—At 18 Patrick Street, Fermoy, Mr. Joseph John Broderick, M.P.S.I. Mr. Broderick passed the Licence examination of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland in 1891.

DICKSON.—On August 20, Mr. David Dickson, M.P.S., 716 Ashton New Road, Clayton, Manchester, aged seventy-one. After qualifying in 1892 Mr. Dickson had experience in Rochester and Manchester before opening a business in Clayton in 1897. He afterwards added a branch at Droylsden. Mr. Dickson was president of the Manchester Pharmaceutical Association in 1923—24, and in 1931 was elected for a second term of office. He was also chairman of the local branch of the (then) Retail Pharmacists' Union, and of the Manchester Pharmaceutical Committee. In Freemasonry, Mr. Dickson was a founder of the City Lodge, 3999, and of the Manchester Pharmaceutical Masonic Association, of which body he had been chairman.

Philipps.—In a London nursing home, following an operation, Major-General Sir Ivor Philipps, K.C.B., D.S.O., chairman of British Alkaloids, Ltd., and Ilford, Ltd., aged seventy-eight.

SMITH.—At his home, Highstead, Thorpe-next-Norwich, on August 15, Mr. Joseph de Carle Smith, M.P.S., chairman of Smith & Sons (Norwich), Ltd., manufacturing chemists, Magdalen Street, Norwich, aged seventy-eight. Mr. de Carle Smith began his pharmaceutical career in the Magdalen Street business and after a period in London and passing the Minor examination he returned to Norwich in 1884, shortly afterwards taking over the management of the business from which his father had retired. He took an active part in municipal affairs, first entering Norwich City Council in 1890 and retiring in 1908. He was appointed justice of the peace in 1919. In addition to his work on the Council Mr. de Carle Smith served the city in several other directions. He retired from business some time ago and was succeeded by his son, Mr. Joseph de Carle Smith, M.P.S.

PERSONALITIES

Lance-Corporal J. Anthony E. Howard, previously reported missing, is now officially reported to be a prisoner of war.

At the recent examination of the Pharmaceutical Society held in London (C. & D. Coloured Supplement, July 27), Mr. J. C. Baker, Mr. H. A. Coward and Mr. H. A. Ward were successful in passing the Chemist and Druggist Qualifying examination. All three were apprenticed with H. J. Bromhall, Ltd., chemists, Thetford, Norfolk.

COMPANY NEWS

P.C. means Private Company and R.O. Registered Office

Matcham Products, Ltd. (P.C.).—Capital £100. Objects: To carr on business of chemists, druggists and druggists' sundriesmen, etc R.O.: 2a Matcham Road, Leytonstone, London, E.11.

HELMAR (EXPORT), LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £100. Objects: To carr on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in toilet requisites, etc R.O.: Commonwealth House, New Oxford Street, London, W.C.I.

J. P. Lunt, Ltd. (P.C.).—Capital £200. Objects: To carry on busines as manufacturers of and dealers in paints, manufacturing chemists, etc First directors to be appointed. R.O.: 211 Newhall Street, Birmingham

OLINOL, LTD. (P.C.)—Capital £100. Objects: To carry on busines as manufacturers of and dealers in oils, emulsions, etc. The firs directors are not named. Solicitors: H. L. F. Berry & Co., 40 Kin Street, Manchester. R.O.: 44 King Street, Manchester, 2.

BEDS SURGICAL APPLIANCE Co., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £100. Objects To acquire the surgical appliance business carried on by Ruth E Lawrence, trading as "The Beds Surgical Appliance Co.," Luton Gerald F. Lawrence and Mrs. Ruth E. Lawrence, 138 Wardown Crescent Luton, Beds, directors. R.O.: 36 Stuart Street, Luton, Beds.

Stephen Smith & Co., Ltd.—Directors' report for the year ender April 30, 1940, shows total profits as £60,281. The directors recomment the payment of a final dividend on the ordinary shares of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. making $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for the year, less tax. The year's profit has been augmented by the profit on the sale of investments, £1,712, and this sum, together with a further £7,500, has been set aside as an additional reserve against fluctuations in the market value of the company investments. Balance carried forward to next account, £4,606.

Private Arrangement.—Albert Wilson, M.P.S., Front Street West Stanley, co. Durham.—At a recent meeting of the creditors a statement of affairs was submitted showing liabilities of £661, of which £366 was due to unsecured creditors, whilst the bankers were partly secured creditors for £318, the security held consisting of two life policies of the estimated surrender value of £23. The bank also held a third party guarantee to the extent of £250. After allowing £64 for preferential rent and rates the net assets were £160, or a deficiency of the preference of the state of £250. £501. The assets included: stock £188, put down at £116, and fixtures and fittings £50. It was stated that the debtor commenced trading at North Shields in 1930 with a capital of £300. That shop was sold in 1937 for £500, and in March of that year the debtor purchased for £75 the business at the above address. At that time the takings were only £14 a week. A full set of books had not been kept, but it was estimated that during the past twelve months the sales were £1,151, whilst the trading expenses were £204. In the same period the drawings aggregated £251. Having regard to existing conditions it was not thought possible to dispose of the business as a going concern. It was decided that the debtor should execute a deed of assignment to Mr. J. M Thomson, of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, as trustee.

TOPICAL REFLECTIONS

An Educational Number.—In recording the few thoughts on the Intermediate examination appearing in this section of your last week's issue, I overlooked the fact that the issue would be your Educational Number for the present year. Comparison of its seven pages devoted to educational information with the corresponding twenty-three pages of your issue of August 12, 1939, evokes congratulations on the skill with which you have grappled with the difficulties of compressing so drastically your usual particulars. Some things have perforce been omitted, but enough remains to put aspirants on the track they are looking for; and remembering that your first Educational Number (of 1871) contained less than two columns of this kind of classified statement, we have not much cause for lament. Such is the inability of many intelligent people to remember what they have read, and even where they have read it, that I may safely guess you receive a good many letters in the course of a year asking for some of the details that appear in these Educational Numbers. These details have their appeal not only for students but also for pharmacists who have left examinations behind them: they form a kind of barometer of the administration of academic pharmacy from year to year.

Coming Educational Changes.—Your first editorial article on p. 83 gives me the impression that the proposed examination changes will come into force in London and Edinburgh before long. However this may be, the need for such changes during a war of the utmost severity is not apparent. To have incorporated in the resolution sanctioning the new arrangements a proviso that they should not take effect till, say, six months after the declaration of peace would have been wise. The

cancellation of branch representatives' meetings from the regramme of the recent British Pharmaceutical Conference has deprived pharmacists of one opportunity of discussing these changes. The form in which permission is given to examiners to ask questions during practical examinations leaves, as you indicate, something to be desired. Due limitations of such power and safeguards against its possible misuse are more easily laid down at the outset than introduced after the system has begun to function. At the same time, the presence of the Government visitor and of members of Council in the examination room should form a check on any vagaries of indviduality, if such there are. Almost everything depends on the spirit in which oral questions during a practical session are put.

An Appeal.—For several weeks past the grave situation of chemists in business in some of our coastal and other areas has been in my thoughts: the launching of the War Distress Fund for Proprietor Chemists gives me an opportunity of adding a few words to your eloquent commendation of it (p. 83). The plain fact is that in present circumstances we may all expect some inconvenience and loss. Citizens who are not willing to shoulder some kind of burden in the emergency are not to be envied. Every day brings evidence in the Press of what is sometimes called the "good neighbours" movement: in addition to the immediate benefits it confers, it has the long-term value of instilling a spirit of mutual helpfulness that will undoubtedly be needed after the war ends. And what better example of good neighbourliness can there be than the steps now being taken to come to the rescue of members of our calling who are hard hit?

Xrayser

PURCHASE TAX PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

HE Purchase Tax, (Finance (No. 2) Bill), was debated by the House of Commons, in Committee, on August 13, and the Bill was finally passed on Thursday, August 15. The only amendment of mportance to the trade accepted by the Government, moved by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, was the exemption of "medical and surgical appliances." In moving this amendment, Sir Kingsley Wood aid: "The purpose of these Amendments is to carry out an underaking which I gave to the House, and they are designed to exempt from ax a number of surgical and medical appliances such as not only those riginally contemplated in the third column, i.e. artificial limbs and spinal jackets, but also surgical boots, crutches, trusses, aids to the deaf and other medical and surgical appliances which might have been held to be liable to tax. The House will remember that medical and surgical astruments used by dentists are not taxed, and by this Amendment nedical appliances including operating tables, surgical bandages and other similar goods made up for surgical use will also not be taxed. The effect of these Amendments will be to exclude all such things."

Another Government amendment also moved by Sir Kingsley Wood provides that the Treasury must give fourteen days' notice of their intention to make Orders affecting the Schedule of Taxable Goods. In moving this amendment, the Chancellor of the Exchequer said: 'I beg to move 'Where the Treasury propose to make an order under this Section they shall publish, in such manner as they think lest for informing persons appearing to them to be likely to be affected, notice of the proposal indicating generally the class of goods proposed to be dealt with by the order and the nature of the direction proposed to be given thereby, and the order shall not be made earlier than the expiration of fourteen days from the first publication of the notice.'

"This Amendment is put forward to carry out an undertaking which I gave during the Committee stage of the Bill. The House will recollect that the Clause deals with the power of the Treasury to make Orders in relation to the Purchase Tax, and an Order so made comes before the House as a draft. The Order does not have effect until the House has approved of it. Some hon. Members may recollect that I gave an undertaking that these powers would be used only in minor matters and for the removal of anomalies disclosed by experience. Notwithstanding that, they would, of course, have their effect upon the traders concerned, and it was therefore suggested in the course of the Debate that it was not unreasonable, before a draft Order was submitted to the House for approval, that notice of the intention to make an Order should be given and that the notice should indicate generally the class of goods to be dealt with and the nature of the change.

"We are leaving the matter open as to exactly what publication or publications should be used, because obviously a great deal depends upon the class of goods which are affected. In one case the publication may be one trade journal and in another case it may be some other. Under this proposal the matter will be brought directly before those who are interested. The Amendment requires also a period of at least fourteen days to pass between the publication of the notice and the laying of the draft for Parliamentary approval. I think that will give sufficient time for the usual conversations to take place between the Department and the trade. These discussions often result in clearing up many matters of difficulty. We shall thus not only be bringing the matter before the House but bringing it to the notice of the trades concerned.

"In connexion with this Clause, I want to refer to another undertaking which I gave to the hon. Member for Spen Valley (Mr. Woolley) and the hon. Member for Swindon (Mr. Wakefield). I promised during the Committee stage to see whether it was possible to ensure that notice should be given of the medicine and drugs which should be exempt under the part of the Schedule dealing with methanes [?medicines]. I propose to do this, using the procedure under Clause 20, which gives the Treasury power to direct, among other things, that the tax should not be chargeable in respect of goods in any class. The Order is laid before the House, but it does not have effect before it is approved by affirmative Resolution. Therefore we propose to give notice as early as possible of the intentions about these costly drugs. The notice will be published in an official publication and in other ways, and when we have received representations upon the list I shall, as I have done before, consult my right hon. Friend the Minister of Health, and the draft Order will then be prepared and laid before Parliament for approval."

A number of amendments were put down with the object of securing the total exemption from the Tax of drugs and medicines and others for the purpose of restricting the Tax on these classes of goods in various ways, but these were all unsuccessful. The following extracts of the debate are taken from the official reports:—

MR. WOOLLEY: "The words in this Schedule which must have appeared rather strange to many hon. Members are 'exceptionally costly.' We must relate those two words to one thing, before they can be intelligible. To what are we to relate them? To the actual cost of the commodities, or to the capacity of people to pay for them? I

suggest that the only intelligible way of interpreting those words is in relation to the capacity of people to pay. If we adopt that method, we see how poor people and others who are not only poor but are suffering from ill health, will be seriously affected by this inclusion. We have had instances of exceptionally costly drugs and chemicals. We were informed that insulin and the active principles of liver were included. I very gladly accept that concession, but what about a poor person suffering from a secondary anæmia? This trouble requires prolonged treatment, and chemicals or drugs which are not excessively expensive when we relate the treatment to the actual cost of the drug. If we relate it to the capacity of a poor person to pay it becomes an exceptionally costly drug, and that particular example will be multiplied if we look at one of the sufferings which, perhaps, is greater than any other in this country today, namely, rheumatism. It is one of those maladies which is treated by certain chemicals or drugs and there has to be prolonged treatment. Those chemicals or drugs in themselves are not exceptionally costly, but if they are related to the capacity of a poor person to pay, they do become excessively costly, and, therefore, they come in that category.

"May I give an example of the question of anæsthetics? Anæsthetics are not mentioned in this third column. They are essential, and they should come into the free category. The Financial Secretary to the Treasury said the other day that the basis for creating these various columns was, first, to supply more cash for the Treasury and, secondly, to reduce consumption. He also said that they wished to avoid hardship for those with smaller incomes and particularly those with children. There are three points which, in my opinion, apply adversely in connexion with these particular commodities. For example, how can folk who are ill and with increased domestic expenditure be expected to pay this extra tax? How can the use of essential drugs be reduced unless the health of the individual is to suffer? The greatest hardship will occur when the pocket is light and the requirements are heavy. I therefore look confidently to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, not necessarily to show sympathy in dealing with this Amendment, but to grant what, after all, is something to which poor people in adverse circumstances have a right.

MR. WAKEFIELD (Swindon): "I desire to second the Amendment which has been proposed by the hon. Member for Spen Valley (Mr. Woolley). At this late hour I do not want again to go over the very careful and logical arguments which he has put before the Committee and the reasons which he has given for moving this Amendment. I would like, however, to draw the attention of the Committee to the phrase: medical and surgical appliances and essential drugs of an exceptionally The hon. Member, in moving this Amendment, drew costly character.' attention to the vagueness of this phrase. He pointed out, quite rightly, that what was costly to one person perhaps was cheap to another. There is another point in connexion with that to which I would like to draw attention. What is this list about which we are voting? Who has seen it; who has drawn it up; who were consulted about it? Who are the people who were able to define whether a drug or a surgical instrument was costly or not? The Committee ought to have a great deal more information. I understand that, earlier, the right hon. and gallant Gentleman, the Financial Secretary, said that there was a list. Nobody knows anything about this list, or where it is; but he said that it had been drawn up by some eminent medical people, and that they were unanimous about it. This is the first time I have heard of medical gentlemen being unanimous about anything; and, for that reason, I have very grave suspicions about this list.

"I urge the Chancellor to consider very carefully indeed the wisdom of including these words in the Schedule. By greatly increasing the cost of a number of drugs his proposal would bring hardship to many people who could ill afford the addition. For example, there are drugs which relieve headaches. [Interruption.] The hon. Member, I know, speaks with feeling on that matter; but there are many people who suffer from headaches. Why should they be unable to relieve headaches because they cannot afford the extra cost of the drug? There are other drugs which have to be taken continuously, such as liquid paraffin and Epsom salts. Drugs of that kind, taken once a month, are not expensive, but, taken every day, they undoubtedly cause considerable expense to the family. Are those drugs included in this list as being of 'exceptionally costly character'? If not, why not? I hope that we may have more information about this mysterious list, and that the Chancellor will consider this Amendment, and accept it."

Mr. Barnes: "I am exceedingly anxious that one aspect of this problem of patent and branded medicines should receive consideration. That aspect is likely to be overlooked, unless it is taken into consideration apart from the general problem of medicines. This is a matter with a peculiar history. In the first place, the Chancellor, when considering the Purchase Tax, laid down a general principle that articles should not be subject to the tax if they were already subject to special and heavy taxation. I do not want to raise the question of the opinions

of Members about these proprietary medicines; I want them to consider a very important point of financial principle. The Chancellor indicated that any article or commodity already subject to heavy taxation would not come under the Purchase Tax. This class or article is already subject to taxation ranging from 25 per cent. to 35 per cent. The lower percentage tax is levied on the cheaper price of medicines. When we impose the Purchase Tax on these cheaper medicines, it will lift a great range of them to the level of the higher-priced medicines, thereby attracting the heavier percentage of Stamp Duty. Therefore the cheaper range of medicines will become subject to a three-tier type of taxation—first the original Stamp Duty, then the Purchase Tax, which lifts them into the higher grade, and the higher Stamp Duty which would follow automatically. I do not feel that on reflection the Committee would wish to see a process of that character introduced. I remember that when the late Chancellor of the Exchequer, in response to the recommendation of a Select Committee, proposed to abolish the Stamp Duty it raised very considerable feeling. I am not in any way anxious to raise that problem tonight, but the Committee will see that fairness of this point. This type of article should not be subject to a double system of taxation.

"If the Chancellor of the Exchequer feels that this group of commodities should come under his Purchase Tax and that the revenue he would get by levying the Purchase Tax would yield him a bigger sum on this class of goods, he ought to repeal the original Stamp Duty. I believe that the revenue from the Purchase Tax would prove to be larger, but I do not know. If, on the other hand, he feels that the original Stamp Duty should be adhered to, I do not think that he ought to impose the Purchase Tax upon that group of goods. The Chancellor of the Exchequer should recognise that very material point and make some concession, either by repealing the original Stamp Duty or withdrawing the Purchase Tax on this class of goods."

CAPTAIN SIR IAN FRASER (Lonsdale): "In view of the request of the Chairman that all these various medicine matters should be taken in one Debate, I wish to draw the attention of the Committee to the Amendment which stands in my name to insert: 'and including all medicines liable to duty chargeable under the Medicines Stamp Act, 1802, the Stamp Act, 1804, and the Medicines Stamp Act, 1812, and any enactment amending those Acts'—to which the hon. Gentleman the Member for East Ham, South (Mr. Barnes) made reference. I am very glad to feel that I have his support, and, in view of what he has said, I will not detain the Committee for more than a very few minutes. I will remind the Committee of the Debate which took place during the Committee stage of the Finance Bill in 1939. Sir John Simon brought to the Committee a proposal that the Medicine Stamp Acts should be repealed. He was acting upon the advice of a Select Committee which had gone thoroughly into the whole question of the anomalous position of those Acts, which are over 100 years old, and have imposed taxation upon certain proprietary medicines in a manner which was judged by the Committee at that time to be extremely unfair. One medicine is taxed and another is not taxed, and no one can explain why the one is taxed or the other is not. There is no distinction and indeed there is no difference between the medicines. Sir John Simon probably made the mistake of coming to the Committee and proposing that these taxes should go by the board without having anything to put in their place. The Committee, generally, felt two things. The first was that medicines, particularly proprietary brands of medicines, which are heavily advertised and are known to make considerable profits, were a fit subject for taxation and that it was reasonable that they should bear taxation to help the country. The other was that there should be some method of control so that those household remedies in which people have come to believe and which, in fact, are very often recommended by doctors and are of real value, might continue to be sold whereas nostrums and quack remedies which very often are harmful, or at any rate of little use, might be prevented from being sold.

"It was generally felt, I think, that there should be taxation and that there should also be some discrimination. Sir John Simon did not bring to the House any proposals to take the place of the legislation he was going to repeal. In those circumstances a very considerable Debate took place and the House of Commons showed itself very unwilling to take Sir John Simon's advice. These Stamp Duties were, therefore, retained and the same anomaly remains. Sir John Simon proposed that between then and his next Budget, that is between 1939 and 1940, he should consult with the interests concerned and try to bring in a proposal which would be fair and on which there would be agreement. No doubt he would have done that if war had not broken out. War did break out, and this small matter had to go by the board. We find ourselves now with the anomalies remaining—some medicines paying Stamp Duty and some not paying it—and the Chancellor of the Exchequer proposes to place a tax on practically all medicines except those on the list which the hon. Member for Swindon (Mr. Wakefield) mentioned.

"The effect of this is peculiarly inequitable and whether we, individually, care for proprietary medicines or not, there is a principle involved—a principle of equity and a principle of taxation which I feel

the Committee ought not to allow to pass without comment. The ton patent medicines works in this way. On a shilling bottle or box medicine there is a duty of 3d. If the retail price of the medicine rito 1s. 1d. or 1s. 2d. the 3d. Stamp Duty rises to 6d. The Chancel of the Exchequer proposes to put a tax of 16 per cent. on the ret price of 1s., and the cost of the medicine is increased by 2d. The immediately causes this commodity to attract a duty of 6d.—one the hundred-year old taxes—instead of 3d. The medicine is, in fataxed at 8d., where at present the tax is only 3d. Even fur coats a diamonds and other luxury goods which can be bought only by very rich are only taxed at the rate of 30 per cent.

"It seems wrong to me that through an accident of ancient legislat this particular industry should be taxed as if the goods they w selling were luxuries bought by the few. They are not luxuries boug by the few; they are household commodities bought by the many great many people have faith in them, and they do people good. therefore seems to me that a strong case has been made out for 1 Chancellor of the Exchequer giving way on the Amendment which is be moved later. He may ask, How can I give way on this when I ha had to refuse on matters which appear more important? May I po out to him that the principle here involved does not operate in a of the other cases debated today. There is no other case in which special tax, due to special legislation, is levied on any commodity. cannot help feeling that injustice is being done to this particular indust and also that an unwarrantable increase will be made in the tax medicines which are bought by people of limited means. Finally, wh probably the Chancellor must reject proposals to exclude medicines a whole, because such a concession might cost him many millions, tl concession will only cost about £100,000. If he grants this Amendmen or some variation of it, he will not lose much revenue. He knows th he ought not to have the revenue, because it is a pure fluke that he getting it, and he can therefore afford to do what is equitable and ju I ask him to consider this matter should I move my Amendment at later stage.

SIR KINGSLEY WOOD: "I should like to say a few words first about t question of patent medicines and the special tax. I had to take t position as I found it. I have read the Debates which took place wh my predecessor brought the matter forward and proposed to remo the duty, and at that time I think there were no fewer than 300 Member who signed the memorial—it was far worse than the question of t book tax—saying that in no circumstances should we do this. I car to the conclusion that I had better deal with the situation as I found and re-impose the tax. It is true, I agree, that there is a consideral anomaly in the matter. I am prepared to give an undertaking endeavour, between now and the next Finance Bill, to see whether cannot get the parties together and get some reasonable solution the matter. I feel that that is the only possible way of tackling it. could not possibly, at this stage, make an exception and let out a pa ticular class of medicines or drugs. As a matter of fact, at present tl Medicine Stamp Duty is chargeable on certain medicines when so by grocers or general retail stores, but not on those medicines if sold t chemists. If I accepted the Amendment on the Paper, which I cou not possibly do, and which the Committee would not desire me to de the result would be to impose the Purchase Tax on those medicine when sold by a chemist but not when sold by grocers or others. The shows the difficulty of the situation. Therefore, though I admit a that has been said, I feel that we must face the position as it is, but will make an earnest effort, if I can get the support of both sides, t get a reasonable solution, because the present position is perfectly impossible.

"I want to say a word or two about the general position of medicir and drugs and the proposals in the Bill. I again endeavoured to mee the situation and at the same time secure a certain amount of revenu which I thought ought to be contributed from this source. I have se down, in the third column of the Schedule, surgical and medical appl ances which are of an exceptionally costly character, and of which som illustrations are given in the Schedule. What we had in mind was tha those medicines which were already very costly ought not to enter int the mind of the medical practitioner when he was giving them to hi patient. We have indications in the Schedule of the various kinds of medical and surgical appliances we had in mind, and the Committe will have a full opportunity of seeing this particular list because it will come forward on a particular section of the Bill which allows th Treasury to make the necessary definitions, within the terms of th Section, and will come before the House for approval. Nearly all the matters mentioned by my hon. Friend in his speech will be covered He asked about persons suffering from secondary anæmia, and understand from advice I have received that this is connected with the liver and will be free. Various other matters are also set out in the Schedule. The advantage of including it in the list is that by the method we have adopted in the Bill we shall be able to add to it fron time to time in the light of experience. It is also true that in the othe portion of the Schedule we are asking the Committee, with these exclusions, to permit a duty of 163 per cent. upon drugs and medicines

manufactured or prepared, as specified in the Third Schedule. In this I am supported in many quarters of the Committee. When this matter was debated during the Debate on the Medicine Duty a great body of opinion in the House considered it was a proper thing that if you made the exceptions I have referred to, there should be a contribution towards taxation from this source. I am fortified in my observations by the Chief Medical Officer of Health, in his annual report for 1935, in which he almost invited taxation of medicines, even of the sort prescribed by doctors. On page 66 of the report he says: 'A considerable proportion of the total outlay of drugs prescribed by the medical profession, averaging 3s. per head, could be limited without detriment, indeed with advantage, to the proper treatment of the people.' A year later, in his report, he said: 'In some areas insured persons have acquired a habit of medicine drinking which the practitioners in those areas are reluctant to control. It has been stated by representative practitioners that a very large proportion of the present medicinal treatment of the population is wholly unnecessary, and if all doctors felt themselves free to order only such medicinal treatment as in their unfettered judgment they considered necessary, the total cost of prescribing would at once fall spectacularly. It is difficult to reconcile ourselves to the wasteful expenditure on drugs and the large sums which otherwise would be available for more effective treatment.' I have also read in this connexion a speech by effective treatment.' an hon, and gallant Member who has passed away during the present crisis and whom we all respected and admired for his speeches on this matter—the late Sir Arnold Wilson. The speech which he made on medicines on 22nd June, 1939, is well worth reading. He reminded the House on that occasion of some observations of his nurse, who said: 'Remember, child, that doctors think more men have died from drugs than drink.'—[Official Report, June 22, 1939: col. 2579, Vol. 348.] That may be perfectly true. I think the proper thing for the Committee to do is to protect those kinds of medicines, drugs and appliances which are necessary, but at the same time I think it is right that a contribution should be made from the general class of medicines. I need not again remind the Committee of the very large exemptions I have made in relation to surgical appliances. In the circumstances, I suggest that we are taking a reasonable course tonight and one that could well be defended.

CAPTAIN ELLISTON (Blackburn): "As it has been decided to discuss all the medicine Amendments together, I desire to draw attention to that in the names of my hon. Friend the Member for Twickenham (Mr. Keeling) and myself to exempt 'drugs and medicines supplied to registered medical or dental practitioners for use in the discharge of their professional duties and supplied to registered pharmacists or registered medical or dental practitioners for use in dispensing as a component part of medicines prescribed by such practitioners.' Unfortunately my hon. Friend is serving his country in another capacity this evening. If he had been present he could have spoken with authority as a member of the Select Committee on the Medicine Stamp Duties which reported in 1937. We have heard an account of the proprietary remedies as affected by these duties, and something of what happened during the Budget Debate of 1939. But we have not been reminded that the Select Committee recommended the retention of the Stamp Duties. It was felt that the prosperous proprietary medicine industry, with a turnover of £20,000,000, was suitable for taxation in the national interest, and this opinion was endorsed by the House of Commons in the most emphatic manner when the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in 1939, proposed to repeal the duties.

"That is all I want to say about the Medicine Duties; but the Select Committee also recommended that medicines dispensed by or on behalf of registered medical practitioners should be exempted from tax, and that is the proposition which I would submit to the Chancellor tonight. The opinion of that Committee was that although the luxury remedies, so popular with those of us who enjoy self-medication, could make a handsome contribution to the revenue, the drugs which were essential to the needs of pharmacists and registered medical practitioners were necessities like food and, like food, should not be subjected to taxation. The arguments in support of that view have been repeated again and again in this Committee, and I inflicted them on the House when I asked for the exemption of drugs and appliances used by hospitals. I do not propose to restate them; but I must emphasise the point that any increase in the cost of drugs and appliances may mean delay in seeking early treatment or at best inflict serious extra expense on a patient at a time when he can least afford it.

"I do not want to introduce any controversial matter at this late hour, but while the hon. Member for Swindon (Mr. Wakefield) thought that it was a shocking thing that a person suffering from headache should not be able to buy a cheap remedy I am thinking of cases with headaches as a symptom, in which it may be a matter of life and death for a man to get skilled medical attention without delay. I submit that anything which delays early treatment or places it beyond the means of the patient is bad, and that anything which may be detrimental to the health of the people in these days of stress and strain, is bad. In the opinion of those with most experience of conditions of health among the people, the imposition of the Purchase Tax on drugs and medicine

could not fail to have detrimental effects on the health of the community. I hope that it is not too late to convince the Chancellor in this matter. One can understand other requests for exemption being refused, but, in regard to the proper treatment of diseases and the protection of the people, we ought not, for the sake of a few thousands of pounds, to take risks which are not justified."

MR. WOOLLEY: "I understood the Chancellor to say that there was some list at the Ministry of Health. Did I correctly understand him to say there would be some consultation in order to get an agreed list? I do not want to press this Amendment to a Division. If we could get some indication that there would be time to get an agreed list—which request, I think, is more than justified in view of the fact that hon. Members have no knowledge of it at the moment—that would meet the view of my hon. Friends and myself.

SIR KINGSLEY WOOD: "As regards the Patent Medicines Tax, I have already stated that I will try to come to an arrangement on this matter which, I think, will be acceptable to hon. Members. An assurance in this matter by the Chancellor of the Exchequer is obviously given on behalf of the Government of the day.

CAPTAIN SIR IAN FRASER: "Are you speaking on behalf of the Government?"

SIR KINGSLEY WOOD: "Obviously, the proposals of the Government of the day are expressed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. With regard to the point made by my hon. Friend the Member for Spen Valley (Mr. Woolley), I propose to put down an Amendment on the Report stage dealing with the list, which will be formulated by the Treasury, and which will have to come before the House. The Amendment will provide that notice shall be given in some form or other of the proposals in the list. Obviously, it must be notice that will give the House time to make any reasonable representations."

Mr. Woolley: "In view of that assurance, I beg to ask leave to withdraw the Amendment."

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

FROM THE NEUTRAL PRESS

The following items of interest to the drug trade have been compiled from information extracted from the journals of neutral countries:—

Trade Names Disappear in Germany.—Following the standardisation of soap and shaving soap, trade names are disappearing in Germany. Some makers of oily toilet preparations are attempting to hold their customers as long as possible in the hope of surviving the restrictions and outlasting the war.

German Whale Gland Experiments.—Before the outbreak of war, German chemists were conducting experiments with whale glands with a view to developing medicinal extracts. The whale liver, on account of its size and its probable rich content of vitamin A, is said to be an important potential source for medicinal oils.

German Medicinal Products Restricted.—In order to conserve supplies of imported medicinal substances the German authorities are encouraging the use of substitutes in manufacturing processes and are authorising deviations from the German pharmacopœial requirements. Boric acid and iodine are among the products affected.

German Restrictions on Synthetic Resins.—Notice No. 13 of the Reich Chemical Board which became effective on July 1 places further restrictions on the use of synthetic resins and plastics for moulding. Synthetic resins derived from phenol, cresol, or urea, except synthetic resins for the lacquer industry and plastics for moulding containing such resins, must not be used for the manufacture of containers, except caps and lids for tubes and other containers. Manufacturers of synthetic resins and thermoplastics require special permits for the use or sale of these materials.

Italian Saccharin Imports Prohibited.—According to a law published on May I and effective from that date, importation of saccharin into Italy is prohibited. The domestic production of saccharin for pharmaceutical and other permitted uses may be authorised by the appropriate department.

Italian Soap Material Distribution.—A recent Italian ministerial decree provides that fatty material for soap manufacture shall be distributed as follows: Standard type laundry soap, 85 per cent; toothpastes, lotions, medicinal soap, antiseptic soap, liquid and powder detergents, 10 per cent.; toilet and shaving soap, 5 per cent.

Italian Chemical Industry.—According to the most recent information available the number of chemical concerns operating in Italy at the end of 1939 was 4,575, employing 150,419 workers. The construction of a "chemical city" near Rome is an outstanding development in the Italian chemical industry. It is stated that this "city" will occupy an area of 1,730 acres, 80 of which will be allotted to industrial plants producing primary and subsidiary materials for the manufacture of chemicals. Experimental laboratories, schools for the chemical regiment, a church, social welfare buildings, stores, houses, refectories, etc., are all included in the plan. It is stated that the industrial section has been completed.

SYNTHETIC RESINS IN DRESSINGS

Some of the newer synthetic resins lend themselves rather well to employment as adhesives for various types of surgical dressings. Several suggestions to this end that have appeared in recent patents literature are briefly discussed below.

Vinyl resins.—During the last few years an enormous amount of work has been carried out on the development of vinyl resins which are now in standard use for making safety glass, textiles, lacquers, films and synthetic rubber. Their glass-like clarity and lack of odour or irritant action on the human skin led to consideration of their possible utility in dressings, and a specific class of these resins now recommended is that of the polyvinyl ethers. The latter can be produced in the form of viscous liquids, sticky solids or hard resins and provide very good adhesion when spread on the usual type of backing. Some members are soluble in water, others only in organic solvents; polyvinyl methyl ether is an example of the water-soluble type and polyvinyl isobutyl ether of the solvent-soluble resins. The manufacture has been outlined (G.P. 663,779) of a zinc oxide plaster containing polyvinyl isobutyl ether, the mixture being worked together in white spirit before spreading on unstriped shirting.

Isobutylene resins.—Isobutylene is a polymerisable substance largely developed in the United States and Germany as a byproduct of the petroleum industry. Synthetic rubbers on a polyisobutylene basis have been on the market for some time. Like vinyl resins, the polyisobutylenes can be produced in a whole range of consistencies. The higher the molecular weight the harder the polymer. It appears that the most suitable degree of tackiness for use as a surgical adhesive is reached at a molecular weight of about 60,000, and polyisobutylenes of this molecular size have been specifically patented as adhesives for gauze bandages, etc. (G.P. 674,187). One of the advantages claimed for this material is that, unlike rubber, it does not alter in tackiness after any length of time. It is unattacked by acids and alkalis and insoluble in water.

Aminotriazine-formaldehyde resins.—This is a class of resins on which the pioneer work has been mainly carried out in Switzerland. If melamine (triaminotriazine) is heated with formaldehyde under certain conditions, a resin is formed which is initially soluble in water but subsequently hardens to an insoluble mass. This process of hardening can be speeded up in presence of suitable hardening agents (E.P. 455,008; 468,677), a property which might be exploited in surgery, especially in view of the freedom of these resins from odour and irritant action. It has been suggested, for instance, that gauze bandages could be impregnated with a solution of a triazine resin in water to which a hardening agent is added prior to use. While still wet, these bandages are wrapped round the wound or abrasion; the subsequent hardening of the resin keeps the dressing securely in position (E.P. 480,316). The same principle might be applicable in orthopædy for the purpose of setting limbs without the aid of the much heavier plaster of Paris.

BRUSHLESS SHAVING CREAMS

BRUSHLESS shaving creams, though known to the Ancient Egyptians, have only within the last few years become popular in this country and America. The earliest consisted essentially of a fatty acid, such as stearic (the basis of most vanishing creams). Most modern shaving creams are true soaps, though they do not produce a lather.

When the basis is a fatty acid it is often mixed with a fatty oil (one of the seed oils is usually preferred) and sometimes with a cholesterin product such as lanolin. A "wetting agent," such as triethanolamine, may be included in small proportion (usually between I and 2 per cent.), and any convenient perfume added if desired. The proportion of water worked into the cream depends largely on the skill of the manufacturer. The effective agent is stearic acid, the oil and other additions being chiefly used to give bulk, for stearic acid alone would be regarded by many prospective purchasers as too expensive. The most recently introduced brushless shaving creams consist essentially of a soft soap. Probably the best consist mainly of an ammonia soap, and are made by neutralising a fatty acid such as oleic, stearic or palmitic, or a blend of all three with ammonia. A cheaper cream of this class is made from ordinary soft soap and stearic acid, together with perfume and sufficient water to produce a soft paste or cream. The potash soap tends, unless prepared with exceptional skill, to contain free alkali, which has a bad effect on the skin. One reason for adding free stearic acid is to neutralise any free alkali that may be present. Several recipes that have been published suggest that brushless shaving creams are necessarily complex. This is not so. The one or two ingredients of which they are composed can be bought ready-made, and no purpose is served in making them by hand in a rough-and-ready manner.

Addition of oil to brushless shaving creams is unnecessary, but provides bulk at a low price. Creams that are poorly prepared, or contain too much bulking material, are difficult to use; are unsuit-

able for some beards; and tend to make shaving painful. A properlymade cream, on the contrary, is pleasant to use and completely effective. Creams made bulky to attract customers should be the essential factor is that the cream should adhere sufficiently to the skin to enable the razor to cut off the hair at skin-level and yet can be completely removed by simply wiping the skin with a soft cloth. There is, of course, no objection to using complex mixtures other than cost of production and the uselessness of many of the ingredients for shaving purposes, and free oil or grease is objectionable to some users because it leaves a film on the skin. Stearic acid and pure soaps do not produce this effect and are consequently preferred by fastidious users. Some brushless creams are too soft in summer and others are too hard in winter. To some extent these drawbacks are unavoidable, but serious objection can generally be avoided by providing the same material in two consistencies-one for summer and the other for winter use. Much prejudice against brushless creams has been occasioned by the existence on the market of products of poor quality, which have had the result of dissuading many people from trying other makes of cream. The only way to overcome this prejudice is by persistent advertising, and firms that have realised this fact are reaping the benefit of their enterprise. One cream failed to make headway for some time because it contained a perfume that many men regard as effeminate; by changing the perfume the disadvantage was eliminated and sales subsequently increased. Some men do not believe that a brushless shaving cream is as good and healthy to use as a lathering soap. They feel that the pores near the surface of the skin are clogged by the cream, and do not hesitate to declare that they feel cleaner after using a lathering soap. While this may be a matter of opinion, it is only fair to state that the most careful experiments have failed to show that a lathering is in any way superior to a latherless cream.

NEW BOOKS

Thorpe, J. F., and Whiteley, M.A. Thorpe's Dictionary of Applied Chemistry. $9\frac{1}{4}$ in. \times 6 in. Pp. 603. 70s. Longmans, Green & Co., Ltd., 39 Paternoster Row, London, E.C.4. [The fourth volume of the fourth edition carries the dictionary from digallic acid to feeding stuffs. Among the subjects which are treated at some length in the new volume are explosives and explosions, covering some 146 pages; industrial dusts and dust explosions; dyeing and dyestuffs; drying and desiccation.]

Rubber Producing Companies—1940. 8 in. × 5 in. Pp. 615. 7s. 6d. [The publication of this official guide for investors in rubber shares, compiled by the Mincing Lane Tea & Rubber Share Brokers' Association, Ltd., comes at an appropriate time when investors are looking round for suitable channels in which to invest money to the best advantage. The work contains particulars of about 550 undertakings, and includes information on companies interested in tea, coffee, coconuts and palm oil, as well as rubber. The book is published by "The Financial Times," 72 Coleman Street, London, E.C.2.]

Fire Protection and A.R.P. Year Book, 1940-41. $7\frac{1}{4}$ in. \times $4\frac{3}{4}$ in. Pp. 324. 7s. 6d. Lomax, Erskine & Co., Ltd., 6 Tower Hill, London, E.C.3. [Details are given, under thirty-four separate headings, of fire brigades in Great Britain and in the Empire. Other sections are devoted to the names and addresses of the principal fire officers and A.R.P. officers of local authorities in Great Britain. A section gives details of Government departments, institutions, associations and other bodies with whom those connected with A.R.P. may have occasion to deal. In this section are articles by well-known authorities on all aspects of A.R.P., decontamination, Home Office recommendations, hydraulic formulas, chemical agents, etc.]

Kingzett's Chemical Encyclopædia, Sixth Edition. Revised and edited by R. K. Strong, Ph.D. 9 in. × 6 in. Pp. 1088. 45s. Baillière, Tindall & Cox, 7 Henrietta Street, London, W.C.2. [Since the publication of the previous edition of this well-known work of reference its original author and founder, Mr. C. T. Kingzett, has died, and the present volume has been edited by Dr. R. K. Strong, Indiana. The original plan of the earlier editions has been maintained but much new subject-matter has been added in the way of new articles and revision and extension of existing monographs, so that the new edition contains 281 more pages than its predecessor. A new entry has been made for pH values illustrated by a chart of indicators, and a new article has been added on solubilities with tables showing solid phases and solubilities of selected important The article on chemical engineering has also been much expanded and includes a consideration of materials, energy, apparatus and economics. The entry on "bacteria" has been specially written for the present edition and now occupies three times as much space as was devoted to the subject in the previous edition. An important new departure is the tabulation of the production and imports by countries of the more widely used chemical commodities.]

PARLIAMENTARY NEWS

Vitamins in Flour.—In a discussion on vitaminised flour, on August 14, Mr. Boothby, in reply to a question by Mr. Leach, said the vitamin, which is derived from many substances, is composed mainly of the atoms of carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen and oxygen, but the process by which these atoms are linked together so as to be in the same form as that in which they occur in nature is an extremely complicated one. Mr. Pickthorn subsequently asked if Mr. Boothby could say whether the process to which he referred is all done under the patent of Roche, Ltd. Mr. Boothby, in reply, said the process to which he referred had been undertaken by various firms in different countries but he understood that Roche, Ltd. is the only firm at present producing in this country.

Dried Milk.—In the course of a discussion on the distribution of milk, on August 14, Mr. R. Morgan asked the Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Food whether he is aware that national milk powder is to be subsidised at 7d. to 9d. per packet and sold at 20 oz. for is. 2d., whereas the unsubsidised standard recognised brands with which it is competing can only be sold at 20 oz. for 2s. 2d.; and whether he will take action to remedy the grave position in which the latter manufacturers will be placed. Mr. Boothby replied that he was aware that national milk powder is to be sold to permit-holders under the National Milk Scheme at a price which is less than the cost of manufacture and that this is the same principle as has been adopted for liquid milk under the same scheme. Both the liquid milk and the milk powder are supplied free or at a reduced price to those for whom the scheme has been put into operation. The national milk powder is to be manufactured by the firms who supply proprietary brands to welfare centres; but the price to be paid to them for national milk powder has not yet been settled.

INSURANCE ACT DISPENSING

Ayrshire.—On April 1 the number of insured persons on the committee's register was 471 higher than in the previous quarter, the total being the record figure of 22,211.

County of London.—The Pharmaceutical Committee, at a recent meeting, appointed the following officers for the year 1940-41: Messrs. H. R. Edgecombe, Chairman; C. A. Noble, Vice-Chairman; G. A. Tocher, Secretary (reappointed). The secretary submitted the following comparative figures for the years 1938-39 and 1939-40:—

	Mont	h		Ingredients		Fees		
	MOIIL	11		1938-39	1939-40	1938-39	1939-40	
September				3.92	4.43	4.26	4.22	
October				3.01	4.61	4.28	4.31	
November				3.92	4.91	4.30	4.34	
December				4.05	5.06	4.28	4.29	
January				3.73	4.64	4.39	4.45	
February				3.59	4.87	4.43	4.44	
March				3.71	4.71	4.43	4.44	
April	• •		• •	3.85	5·01	4.36	4.36	

Denbighshire.—Wrexham chemists have been asked by the Insurance Committee to arrange for at least one chemist to be open until 7.30 p.m. on week-days, and Denbigh chemists for one chemist to be open until 8 p.m. on Thursdays.

Middlesex.—At a meeting of the Pharmaceutical Committee held recently, the following officers were elected for the year:—Chairman: Mr. E. R. Jackson; Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. Dobson; Secretary: Dr. T. Dewar; Auditors: Messrs. R. B. Cadge and E. C. Pryce; Representatives on Pharmaceutical Service Subcommittee: Messrs. E. R. Jackson, H. E. Clement and H. Skinner, with Messrs. E. Ratcliffe, J. E. Goodall and G. F. Weiss as their respective deputies. The annual report showed a further increase in the number of prescriptions dispensed (3,457,509, against 3,390,331 in 1938). The committee viewed with concern the increased costs relating to National Health Insurance dispensing and directed the secretary to represent to the National Pharmaceutical Union the urgent need for increased dispensing fees.

Warwickshire.—At a meeting of the Pharmaceutical Committee on July 25 it was unanimously agreed that single prescription forms should be adopted when present stocks were exhausted. During the quarter ended March 31 the average cost per prescription was 8.9d., and the cost per insured person 13.1d. During May, the average cost per prescription rose to 9.7d. but the cost per insured person fell to 2.7d. The secretary was instructed to get in touch with neighbouring Committees with a view to synchronisation of closing hours for pharmacies in the area.

Wilshire.—The number of insured persons in the Insurance Committee's area on July I was 133,150. In the South-Western area as a whole, 4,448,365 prescriptions were dispensed in the year ended December 31, 1939 (94,121 more than in 1938), at a cost of £172,508 (3s. per person).

C. & D. RETAIL PRICE LIST

The prices set out below are the changes which have taken place since the issue of The Chemist and Druggist List of Retail Prices in the C. & D., July 27. They only apply to retail sales.

Cost	in d .			Se	lling Pr	ice
Aug. 1939	Aug. 1940	Per		lb.	4 oz. s. d.	I oz.
9 10 8 23 4·55 6 7 7 7 5 3 8 15 21 16 132 21 108 5·55 24 7 10 66 7 2 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 1	11 12 10 40 5.55 7.55 8.5 8.5 7.5 45 8.5 18 27 22 25 8.5 50 8.5 50 8.5 50 8.5 10 60 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	1b. 1b.	Acid. boricum cryst Acid. borici pulv. subtil. Acid. borici pulvis coml. Acid. tartarici pulvis. Alumen coml. Borax coml. cryst. Borax purificatus cryst. Boracis purificati pulvis. Confectio sulphuris. Creta c. camph. 10 per cent. Ferri et quininæ citras Hennæ folia pulv. Hydrarg. perchlor. S.I.P.II(4) Hydrargyrum, wgt. Lini semina contusa Lin. camphoræ Magnes. sulphatis pulvis Magnes. sulphatis pulvis Magnes. sulphatis pulvis Magnes. sulphats pulvis Magnes. sulphats pulvis Magnes. sulphats coml. Mel Ang. Ol. amygdalæ Ang. Ol. lavandulæ spic. coml. Ol. limonis	1 3 1 4 1 2 4 9 8 0 11 1 1 0 1 1 5 6 2 4	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	0 1 2 0 0 1 1 0 0 1 1 0 0 1 1 0 0 1 1 0 0 1 1 1 0 0 1 1 1 1 7 9 1 1 4 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
18 81 5 51	25 96 7.5 92	lb. lb. lb. lb.	Sodii et pocass, tart, pulv Spt. camphoræ	1 0 11 0	$\begin{array}{c c} 0 & 10\frac{1}{2} \\ 3 & 3 \\ 0 & 3\frac{1}{2} \\ 3 & 3 \end{array}$	0 3 0 10 0 1 0 10

TRADE NOTES

ILFORD, LTD., have published a leaflet giving particulars of their new Multigrade contact printing boxes.

Fruit Preserving tablets are advertised in this issue by John Bell, Hills & Lucas, Ltd., Oxford Works, Worsley Bridge Road, London, S.E. 26.

CLOSED FOR STOCKTAKING.—Burroughs Wellcome & Co., Snow Hill, Buildings, London, E.C.1, inform us that their warehouses will be closed on Saturday, August 31, for the purposes of stocktaking. Only emergency orders can be executed on that day.

THE CROOKES LABORATORIES (British Colloids, Ltd.), Gorst Road, Park Royal, London, N.W.10, are issuing Crookes' Compound Hypertonic Salt for the treatment of infected wounds. It is supplied in 8 oz. and 16 oz. packages. A leaflet giving details of this product will be supplied on application.

RASPBERRY VINEGAR.—J. C. Arnfield & Sons, Ltd., Princes Street, Stockport, offer to send a sample of their raspberry vinegar on receipt of a trade postcard. This product, which is supplied in carboys, kegs, casks and winchesters, contains no added preservative and is guaranteed to comply with the Food and Drugs Act and the Pure Food Regulations.

TRUFOOD.—Trufood Co., Ltd., Wrenbury, Cheshire, wish to draw the attention of chemists to the fact that there is no shortage of either the Humanised or Follow-on Trufood. The company state they have ample stocks of all materials and that an advertising campaign drawing attention to the value of these products in war-time conditions is being conducted in the lay Press.

EXPORT TRADE AND AGENCIES.—J. Green & Co., a well-known and established firm of manufacturers' agents and importers, with head-quarters in Cairo and Tel Aviv, with branches in Alexandria, Haifa and Jerusalem, advertise in this week's issue inviting manufacturers of pharmaceutical products, surgical, laboratory and photographic goods desirous of extending their export trade in these overseas markets to communicate with the senior partner of the Cairo firm, who is at present in London.

Proprietary Articles Trade Association

Additions and Alterations to Protected List.—British Felsol Co., Ltd., Felsol Brand Powders, new size of 60 powders, 10s., 90s. doz. Orders to the retail value of 30s. (on which a bonus of one 2s. 6d. size is given) may now include either or both sizes assorted. Johnson & Johnson (Great Britain), Ltd. The $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. monthly settlement discount has been withdrawn.



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TRADE-MARK APPLICATIONS

The figures in parentheses refer to the classes in which the marks are grouped. A list of classes and particulars as to registration are given in "The Chemist and Druggist Diary and Year-Book," 1940, p. 275.

(From "The Trade Marks Journal," July 31, 1940)

- "Verdinia"; for toilet preparations (3) (IV). By Verdinia Beauty Aids, Ltd., 28 Bruton Street, London, W.1. 612,252.
- "Numol"; for all goods (5) (IV). By Numol, Ltd., Elswick Road, Newcastle on-Tyne.
- 600,564 (Associated).

 "GLYCOPIN"; for medicated cough preparations (5) (IV). By C. R. Dickens, 5 Dillwyn Road, Sketty, Swansea. 610,714.
- "Amขึ้งo"; for moth repelling preparations (5) (IV). By Merck & Co., Inc., 126 Lincoln Avenue and Scott Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey, U.S.A. 611,235.
- "RIDDORHEUMAN"; for medicated and pharmaceutical preparations for treatment of rheumatism (5) (IV). By F. Riddell, Ltd., Warwick Street, Regent Street, London, W.I. 611,634 (Associated).
- "Helvepharm"; for pharmaceutical, veterinary and sanitary substances, etc. (5) (IV).
 By Helvepharm Gesellschaft Mit Beschränkter Haftung, Nauenstrasse 14, Basle, Switzerland. 611,832.
- Kemoplast"; for surgical dressings, bandaging material, etc. (5) (IV). By The Kemo Co., Ltd., Lanarkshire Industrial Estate, Strutherhill, Larkhall, Scotland. 611,845.
- Design of Emu and words "Emu Brand" for pharmaceutical eucalyptus oil (5) (IV). By F. H. Faulding & Co., Ltd., James Place, Adelaide, S. Australia. 612,113.
- "STUMOIDS"; for medicated powders and tablets for stomach ailments (5) (IV). By Stotherts, Ltd., North Road, Atherton, Lanes. 612,127.
 "Andrews Liver Salt" (design); for a medicated saline preparation for liver ailments (5) (IV). By Scott & Turner, Ltd., Gallowgate, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 611,877 (Assoc ated).
- "MIDDY"; for razor blades (8) (IV). By E. O. Kohn, 46-48 Jewin Street, London, E.C.I.
- "P.A.G. JUNIOR"; for inhalation apparatus (10) (IV). By Riddell Products, Ltd., Warwick Street, Regent Street, London, W.I. B611,414 (Associated).

Conversion of Specifications Section 36 (3) and Rules 6 to 8

From Schedule III to Schedule IV Specification No. 219,847 by T. Hedley & Co., Ltd., Phoenix Buildings, Collingwood Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne: Soaps and soap compounds for veterinary and sanitary purposes, etc.; medicated soap, medicated soap extract and medicated dry soap for human use, etc.

(From "The Trade Marks Journal," August 7, 1940.)

SCHEDULE IV

- "Melweld"; for industrial chemicals (1). By Magnesium Elektron, Ltd., Baker Street, London, N.W.1. 611,766.
 "Kemtex"; for industrial chemicals (1). By Kemtex, Ltd., Richard Street, Leeds Road,
- Bradford. 611,819.
- "Supinol"; for scientific and industrial chemicals (1). By F. & M. Supplies, Ltd. 21-23 Coldharhour, London, E.14. 611,702 (Associated). "Neosol"; for industrial chemicals (1). By Technical Products, Ltd., 31 Great St. Helen's,
- London, E.C.3. 611,833 (Associated).
- "STANVIS"; for scientific chemicals (1). By The British Drug Houses, Ltd., Graham Street, City Road, London, N.1. 611,999
- "Broloid"; for photographic chemicals, etc. (1). By Ilford, Ltd., Roden Street, Ilford. 612.021.
- "Bommex"; for a preparation to protect glass (1). By R. Tuck & Sons, Ltd., Moorfields, London, E.C.2. 612,111.
- "Latoja" (initials "L" and "T" in circle); for toilet preparations (3). By Sociedad Anonima "La Toja," Calle Michelena 30, Pontevedra, Spain. 611,222 (Associated). "Plus"; for medicated food containing liver extracts and iron (5). By Vitamins Plus, Inc., 370 Lexington Avenue, New York, U.S.A. 606,594.
- "Abidec"; for pharmaceutical and veterinary preparations (5). By Parke, Davis & Co., Foot of McDougall Avenue, Detroit, Michigan, U.S.A. 612,281 (Associated).
- "Fan"; for razors and razor blades (8). By J. F. Levene, Rydene Works, Dukes Road, Western Avenue, Park Royal, London, W.3. 611,897.
- "Reduso"; for surgical and medical appliances for personal wear (10); and for all goods with exception of corsets (25). By Weingarten Bros., Ltd., Milton, Southsea. 604,636/7 (hoth Associated).
- "Belnox"; for head rests for heds (20). By G. Fowler, C. D. Pochin and R. Gibson, jun., 59 Pembroke Place, Liverpool. 611,504.

Conversion of Specifications

Section 36 (3) and Rules 6 to 8

From Schedule III to Schedule IV (with amalgamation): Specification No. 40,099 by A.& F. Pears, Ltd.

(From "The Trade Marks Journal," August 14, 1940)

- "Brentaget"; for industrial chemicals (1) (IV). By British Dyestuffs Corporation, Ltd., Imperial Chemical House, Millhank, London, S.W.1. B610,067. (Associated.)
- "Fertilux"; for fertilisers (1) (IV). By J. Lyons & Co., Ltd., Cadhy Hall, Kensington, London, W.14. 612,058.
- "Garindl"; for chemical substances to protect glass (1) (IV). By Garinol, Ltd., Weedington Road, London, N.W.5. 612,311.
- "Victory"; for sachets for permanent waving (3) (IV). By W. Kirkham (Sachet Supplies), Ltd., 17 Station Road, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs. 611,651.
- VALDERMA"; for toilet preparations for the skin (3) (IV). By Dae Health Laboratories, Ltd., Cunard Road, Chase Estate, London, N.W.10. 612,225 (Associated).

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VOL. CXXXIII

Marriages

Insurance Act Dispensing

THE

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August 24, 1940

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Trade Notes

Trade Report ...

Following the debates in the House of Commons on Tuesday and Thursday of last week, Parliament approved this legislation. amendments of interest to the chemical industry were accepted by the Government. The first referred to the exclusion of medical and surgical appliances from liability to the tax. The other Government amendment provides for the Treasury giving fourteen days' notice to interested parties of their intention to amend the Schedule of taxable goods. This will be done by the issue of the usual official notices. The debates in the House were of interest and for this reason we publish on pp. 99-101 of this issue extracts from the speeches made by Members of Parliament in support of their amendments, either totally to exempt drugs and medicines from the tax or to restrict its operation on these classes of goods very materially. Unfortunately, these proposals did not meet with Government approval, and they were all negatived. Nevertheless, the thanks of all sections of the trade are due to the new member for Spen Valley, Mr. W. E. Woolley, M.P.S., and to Mr. W. W. Wakefield, M.P.S., representing Swindon.

Drugs and medicines, except those which are of essential and of an exceptionally costly character, are to remain liable to the reduced rate of tax. In due course, the Treasury are to issue a list of the products which are considered to come within this exemption. Its publication will be awaited with much interest. It is anticipated that the authorities will endeavour to restrict the number of exempted articles to the minimum, and even so, there are bound to be a number of claims for the inclusion of other products, on the ground that they are similar to exempted products.

The statements made by Sir Kingsley Wood on the subject of the anomalies of taxation of patent medicines will be welcomed by all concerned. The Chancellor gave an undertaking "to endeavour, between now and the next Finance Bill, to see whether I cannot get the parties together and get some reasonable solution of the matter." He declined to accept an amendment to exempt from the Purchase Tax medicines liable to duty under the Medicine Stamp Acts.

Perfumery, toilet preparations and requisites are to be liable to the full rate of tax. We are advised that this addition to the wholesale selling prices of these goods will not be taken into account for the purpose of calculating values of goods, the supplies of which are restricted under the Limitation of Supplies (Miscellaneous) Order, 1940. The tax was not a factor of cost during the "relevant period of 1939," and, therefore, it will be excluded as an item of cost in the wholesale value of goods supplied during the operation of the tax.

We are authoritatively informed that the tax will come into operation early in October. Registration of manufacturers and wholesale merchants in trades concerned has to be carried out first. Forms for registration (P.T.I.) are now obtainable from H.M. Customs, Lower Thames Street, London, E.C.3, and it is required to complete registration at the earliest possible date.

Christmas Trade

It may seem early days and the conditions may, at first sight, seem inopportune to discuss the prospects of Christmas trade. Manufacturers and wholesalers will by now have their plans well advanced, and retailers will in due course be considering placing their orders for seasonable goods. Accurate forecasting of public demand is always a big factor in the success of any description of business: in connexion with a short seasonal trade it is essential if the best results are to be obtained. Will the public be in the mood for buying this Christmas? We believe they will be and that the trade turnover will at least be fully up to that of a normal year. Employment is at the peak, and there is more money than ever in circulation. The coming Christmas, a season so essentially British in character, will, despite war conditions, be celebrated with greater zest than usual. This annual festival is the visible sign of the very foundation of our faith in the right of freedom and all the decent things of life for which we are fighting today, and for that reason it will be celebrated to the full. The accompanying age-old custom which neither time nor circumstances can dim will be welcomed.

So far there has been no official pronouncement of policy on Christmas spending; it would not make very much difference if there had been. It is the people themselves who will decide. Assuming that a normal amount of money is spent largely on non-essentials it will be circulated in the country and will in no way sensibly affect our financial stability. After a year of economy and giving full support to savings schemes, this break will be good for the morale of the nation. The Government has made it clear that business must be maintained and here is the opportunity for the wholesaler and retailer to make up some of the leeway of the past twelve months. In some classes of goods manufacturers' outputs will be restricted by the Limitation of Supplies Order, but there are other branches of the trade where supplies need not be limited in this way. A good volume of the country's Christmas trade usually goes to the retail chemist. The money will certainly be circulating this year as usual, and it will rest with him and his suppliers whether he gets his share of the trade.

MEDICAL ABSTRACTS

Digitalis and Obesity.—Consequent upon work which has been carried out to examine the effect of digitalis in the treatment of obesity, an article has appeared in the "Journal of the American Medical Association," June 8, p. 2311, pointing out the lack of evidence which exists to confirm the views held by the investigator. Whether or not digitalis can produce a loss of appetite without harmful effects is however debatable. Experiments have shown that nausea produced by digitalis is a reflex, the sensory organ for which does not appear to be located in the heart. Thus, the type of nausea which digitalis produces is at least partly due to factors other than gastric irritation. Indeed, nausea and vomiting are toxic symptoms of digitalis and constitute a warning to decrease or stop the administration of the drug. The view is held that the control of body weight by this method cannot be generally recommended.

Sulphanilamide for War Wounds.—The local application of sulphanilamide powder for the treatment of war wounds is outlined in a letter by Colebrooke which appears in "The Lancet," July 27, p. 113, who describes some of the work carried out in the Pasteur Institute on the checking of bacterial growth in wounds. From these experiments it has been concluded that a high concentration of the drug in the wound itself for a short time was more effective in checking the development of the gase-gangrene organisms than a much lower concentration operating in the blood stream over a long period. Furthermore that it was likely to be true also for most of the other bacterial species infecting war wounds. It is considered that the circumstances of modern war call especially for some means of holding up events in the contaminated wound while the man is in transit to a base hospital and the following proposals are put forward: (1) That wounds should be thoroughly dusted with sulphanilamide as soon as possible and two grams of the substance should be given orally at the same time; (2) there should be second dusting after débridement if this was carried out many hours after the first treatment was given. Further, the suggestion that the sulphanilamide might be introduced in the form of an emulsion from a collapsible tube is under investigation, and another worker has recommended for tubular wounds with a small aperture the insertion of sulphanilamide crayons containing about two grams of the drug-a procedure having the advantage that the drug is more slowly absorbed, such crayons having been found only half dissolved twelve hours after insertion. Colebrooke draws attention to the fact that it is becoming increasingly evident that infection by Hæmolytic Streptococci does not usually occur when the patient is wounded but later during his stay in hospital due to the transfer of the organism from patient to patient during dressings or by dust. Sulphanilamide packs, however effective in holding off primary infection, will not give protection against later infections as the drug will have disappeared from the wound and also from the blood stream after two to four days. Whenever such infection is feared it might be worth following up the local application by oral administration of the drug, starting on the second or third day.

RECENT RESEARCH

Saponated Solution of Cresol.—Martin and Proll ("Journal of the American Pharmaceutical Association," XXIX, 7, 327) have reached the conclusion that saponated solution of cresol can easily and speedily be prepared by using either sodium stearate or sodium oleate in direct combination with the cresol. Little heat is required and a relatively high per cent. of cresol is assured in the finished product. The preparation made according to the revised formula presents a much lighter-coloured solution than the official product. Light affects the colour of the finished preparation, which should therefore be protected from light during storage. Gelatinisation does not occur in the preparation made according to the revised formula, regardless of the grade of cresol used.

The formula adopted was:-

Cresol				 		500 CC.
Sodium			te	 		240 gm.
Distilled	l water t	0		 	1	,000 CC.

Analysis of Derris.—The analysis of finely powdered derris root by the ether-extraction method has been compared by Meijer and Koolhaas ("Industrial and Engineering Chemistry," Analytical Edition, April 1940, p. 205), with the method of extracting the powdered root with chloroform and determining the rotenone by means of its carbon tetrachloride solute. The pure rotenone content by the former method was equal to the crude rotenone of the latter. In samples with a fineness of 80 to 90 per cent. through a 200-mesh sieve the crude rotenone content by the Jones-Graham method was generally higher. For complete chloroform extraction of samples in which the ratio of rotenone to total ether extract exceeds 40 per cent., a greater fineness than the one given in the Jones-Graham method was found to be required. The purity of the carbon tetrachloride solute, as obtained in the Jones-Graham method, is determined by titration of the dichloroacetic acid solute into which it has been converted, by polarisation, and by alcohol recovery. Results by the three methods did not differ greatly. A method has been devised for determining the rotenone that has escaped estimation, involving passage of solution of the resin in benzene through a column of Frankonit KL. From a number of samples of resin at least 10 per cent, of the original rotenone could be recovered. Heating derris powder at 60° and 80° C. for definite periods considerably lowered the rotenone and total ether-extract contents.

Helichrysum Angustifolium Oil.—According to S. Sabetay ("Annales de Chimie Analytique," April 1940, Vol. XXII, p. 89), fresh flowers of Helichrysum angustifolium, collected in Provence, yielded 1 per cent. of a concrete oil by extraction with petroleum ether. This concrete, which was chestnut yellow in colour and had a strong, distinctive odour, had the following constants:—

Dropping point	(Ubbel	ohde)	 	 47-48°
Acid value			 	 7 3
Ester value				т26

The acid and ester values were determined by titration in Wood's light in the presence of methyl-umbelliferone as fluorescent indicator. Extraction of the concrete with ethyl alcohol gave the absolute oil in 85 per cent. yield, whilst distillation under reduced pressure in the presence of water vapour yielded 4.9 per cent. of a rather viscous essential oil in which eugenol, acetic acid, caprylic acid and an azulene type sesquiterpene were identified as constituents.

A Suggested Ointment of Mercuric Nitrate.—Knover and Burnside ("Journal of the American Pharmaceutical Association," XXIX, 7, 325) have attempted the preparation of a stable ointment of mercuric nitrate by dispersing an aqueous mercuric nitrate phase in a cholesterol-petrolatum base capable of holding large quantities of acqueous solutions or suspensions in a substantially permanent form. The following formula was developed:—

Mercuric nitrate		 	 	11.34
Nitric acid		 	 	1.35
Distilled water		 	 	32.31
White wax		 	 	5.00
Cholesterol		 	 	
Soft white paraffi	n			48.50

Mix the finely powdered mercuric nitrate with r c.c. of water, preferably in a mortar, and add r 35 gm. of nitric acid, accurately weighed. Triturate in the mortar until solution is effected and add 3131 gm. of water, slowly, and with constant stirring. Melt the soft white parafin, the cholesterol finely powdered and the white wax in a suitable dish. Continue heating until the temperature of the mixture is raised to 80° C. and the cholesterol has completely dissolved. Stir the mixture until it congeals. By trituration, slowly incorporate the aqueous solution of mercuric nitrate into the ointment base. Avoid contact with metallic instruments or containers.

When first prepared the ointment is snow white, gradually assuming a light yellow colour which it retains permanently. It has an excellent consistency, and after several months the ointment shows no signs of deterioration. It holds its aqueous phase completely and retains its light yellow colour and its original antiseptic potency.

Ephedrine with Silver Preparations.—Ephedrine hydrochloride and sulphate have commonly been ordered by physicians in combination with silver proteinates for the bactericidal action of silver and the vasc constrictor effect of ephedrine. McLeod and De Kay ("Journal of th American Pharmaceutical Association," XXIX, 6, 277) carried out study of solutions of ephedrine alkaloid and its salts with silver prepara tions, and of silver salts of ephedrine. They reached the conclusions tha ephedrine alkaloid in aqueous solution reduces silver salts to metalli silver, but ephedrine salts have not the reducing property of th alkaloid; that ephedrine and ephedrine sulphate appear to be stable it solution with colloidal silver chloride. That ephedrine phosphate and silver phosphate, in strongly acid solution, are apparently stable; tha silver compounds with ephedrine, such as ephedrine silver chloride and ephedrine silver nitrate, cannot be prepared, ephedrine hydrochlorid being apparently converted into pseudoephedrine by the reaction o silver nitrate in alcoholic solution; and that a mixture of ephedrin and silver tartrate, found to contain 10.5 per cent. silver and to be: mixture of ephedrine nitrate and silver tartrate, was apparently stable in aqueous solution.

Soluble Ointment Base.—Cox and Goedrich ("Journal of the American Pharmaceutical Association," XXIX, 6, 210) have experimented with a soluble ointment base made to the following formula—

Glyceryl monostearate			 	10
Glycerin			 	25
Bentonite		• •	 	2
Distilled water to	٠.		 	100

Sprinkle the bentonite upon 50 c.c. of distilled water and, after it is thoroughly wetted, stir until a uniform magma results. Melt the glyceryl monostearate in the glycerin on a water bath and add to it the magma, warmed to the same temperature, and enough distilled water to make the product weigh 100 gm Stir until cool.

Using this soluble ointment base and the process of incorporation, a boric acid ointment of the official strength, tannic acid, iodine, phenol sulphur, compound benzoic acid, calamine, ichthyol and potassiun iodide ointments were prepared. An ointment containing the U. S. P amount of sulphur and ointments of calamine and of potassium iodide of the N. F. strength were prepared by adding the medicament while preparing the ointment base. Ointment of potassium iodide, which was made without sodium thiosulphate, showed no discoloration and gave no colour with starch after six months' standing.

Incompatibilities of Vitamin B₁.—Louis Greengard ("Journal of the American Pharmaceutical Association," 1940, 6, 230) discusses the incompatibilities of thiamin chloride (vitamin B₁). Aqueous alcoholic solutions of thiamin chloride, he points out, precipitate as thiochrome upon standing at room temperature for several months. For this reason elixirs of thiamin chloride should be prepared not necessarily extemporaneously, but in such quantities as will insure its being dispensed and consumed by the patient within sixty days of preparation. Little thiochrome is stated to be formed at pH2, but formation is more rapid as pн nears 7. Since no elixir can be very acid, the pн must necessarily be close to $p_{\rm H7}$, and it follows that precipitation of thio-chrome occurs. Thiochrome is practically harmless, but the patient is getting no thiamin chloride, but merely a pleasantly flavoured inert drink. Physicians and manufacturing chemists appear to have accepted a wine base as the most satisfactory vehicle for administering vitamin B₁. This is due partly to the palatability of the ensuing product, but also to the greater stability of thiamin chloride in an acid medium. All wines contain a certain amount of tannic acid, however, which throws down the thiamin chloride, probably in the form of a tannate. The pharmacist, in dispensing the preparation, is liable to decant the liquid, rejecting the precipitate; thus the patient gets wine with no medica-tion. For this reason the wine should be detannated before adding thiamin chloride. This is done by using freshly prepared casein or completely defatted and de-albuminised milk. Aqueous or weak alcoholic solutions of thiamin chloride, upon standing, develop moulds. This can be prevented by using $\frac{1}{10}$ per cent. benzoic acid. Thiamin chloride is adsorbable by charcoal and kaolin, and therefore should not be administered simultaneously with either of these substances. It reacts to nearly all alkaloidal precipitants except bromides, which make no change, and hydroxides. The hydroxides, however, decompose it, as evidenced by the yellow colour produced. In most instances the solutions of thiamin chloride are dilute, and the precipitate does not develop for several days. Bromides of strontium and ammonium tend to be broken up by acids and acid salts, and therefore should not be dissolved in elixir thiamin chloride but administered separately. The following is a summary of substances incompatible with thiamin chloride: Mercuric chloride, iodides, carbonates, bicarbonates and acetates (white precipitates); ferrous sulphate (yellow crystalline precipitate); tannic acid and iron and ammonium citrate (brown precipitates); iodine (reddish-brown precipitate). Sodium phenobarbitone produces a white crystalline precipitate, so that when phenobarbitone is desired in combination with the elixir, phenobarbitone itself, not the sodium salt, should be used.

TRADE REPORT

pot quotations recorded for pharmaceutical chemicals, crude drugs, essential oils, etc., represent the prices, for wholesale quantities of standard uality. C.i.f. shipment quotations do not include marine war risk insurance and other abnormal charges which arise in the present emergency

28 Essex Street, W.C.2, August 21

or some time past many of the markets have been depending more or less n the regular home consuming trade which fluctuates but little from week o week. August, being a quiet business month generally, has not greatly ltered this year, and the customary quietness is still noticeable. Prices, owever, are mostly keeping fully steady, and there is no apparent shortage important commodities. In the Pharmaceutical Chemicals markets the indertone is firm and a fair volume of business is being done in many products. Price changes are few in number, and none of these is of outstanding mportance.

rude Drugs

The generally quiet tone has had some exceptions in these markets, and a fair business has been done in some commodities. Acar has been in steady lemand for home trade requirements. Some interest has been shown in Aloes. BALSAMS continue in poor supply. Belladonna root and leaves are very lifficult to find and spot quotations are nominal. There is still a lack of inquiry or Buchu. The older Cascara sagrada peels continue to attract some usiness. Stocks of Chamomiles are now very small and high prices are being sked. Prime English Cocoa BUTTER is quoted slightly dearer on spot. Desic-ATED COCONUT continues firm and a fairly good business is reported done. ANDELION ROOT is no longer quoted and supplies will be unobtainable until he autumn-dug crop becomes available. Some business is reported in higher otenone testing Derris root. Forward quotations for Spanish-Portuguese Root show no change on last week's figures. West African Ginger is a ising market and this week's spot quotations show a further advance. Gum CACIA is firm on spot at the advanced figure reported last week. There is no reat change in the position of IPECACUANHA; good-testing Matto Grosso continues to be firmly held on spot and the Minas variety is in fair demand. The demand for Chinese Menthol has been good this week. Pepper continues irm with Lampong spot showing an advance on last week's figures; the White Muntok variety is also quoted slightly dearer on spot. PIMENTO is also nuoted dearer on spot. The RUBBER market was reported quiet at the close vith only a small business passing. Senega is considerably firmer this week.

Essential Oils

Business in these markets has been very quiet during the past week and has een mostly confined to buying for immediate requirements. Prices of many ils continue nominal and have to be negotiated between buyer and seller. The position of Anise (STAR) continues very steady and last week's quotations re unchanged. The position of BERGAMOT and the other Sicilian oils is unhanged with spot values nominal and subject to negotiation. Bois de rose sa firm market. Cassia is very firm and stocks are now limited. Spot values of CITRONELLA are well maintained. CLOVE oils are fully steady. Values of ourbon and Algerian Geranium are nominal. The Californian distilled LEMON has been in steady demand; there are no shipment prices available for old-pressed. Orange is steady at firmer quotations. Palmarosa continues firm market. A rather better demand is reported for both Japanese and Chinese Peppermint oils; the American natural oil is steady on spot. There are no shipment offers for Petitgrain and spot stocks are well held. The Spanish oils, Rosemary and Spike, are firm on spot.

Exchange Rates on London

The following is a list of the chief Continental and other exchange rates at the opening on Wednesday morning:—

Centre	Quoted	Par	August 14	August 21
Buenos Aires Java Lisbon Madrid Montreal New York Shanghai Stockholm Yokohama	Frs. to £ Paper pesos to £ Florins to £ Esc. to £ Ptas. to £ Dols. to £ Dols to £ Per dollar Kr. to £ Per yen Frs. to £	nominal 12:107 110 25:24½ 4:86½ nominal 18:150 2s. 22:2115	1768* 17:02* 7:60* 100* 37:25 4:45* 4:03* 38d. 16:90* 1s. 28d. 17:70*	176 * 1702 * 1700 * 1760 * 100 * 37:25 4:45 4:03 * 3 \frac{1}{1}{1}{1}{1}{1}{1}{1}{1}{1}{1}{1}{1}{

^{*} Rate fixed by Bank of England. Bank rate, 2 per cent.

Pharmaceutical Chemicals, etc.

REPORTS from most sources indicate that business continues on moderate lines with conditions fully steady. There are no important price changes to record.

ACETANILIDE.—Market steady; small business passing. B.P. leviss., for prompt delivery, from 2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d. per lb., according to quantity.

AMIDOPYRINE.—Dealers' quotations unchanged; market firm. One cwt., about 27s. 6d. per lb.; smaller quantities, up to about 30s. per lb. for crystals, with powder 3d. per lb. extra.

Ammonium ichthiosulphonate.—Dealers are quoting one-cwt. lots, in 14-lb. tins, at about 5s. per lb., ex store.

ATROPINE.—Makers' prices per oz. continue steady: Alkaloid, 21s. per OZ.; 4 OZ. at 20S. 6d. and 25 OZ. at 20S. per OZ. SULPHATE, 16S. 6d. per OZ.; 4 OZ. at 16S. and 25 OZ. at 15S. 6d. per OZ. SULPHATE, 16S. 6d. per OZ.; Bottles, under 5 gm. or \(\frac{1}{2}\) OZ., corked, 3d.; stoppered, 5d.; 5 gm. to 25 gm. or \(\frac{1}{2}\) OZ. to 1 OZ. corked, 3\(\frac{1}{2}\)d.; stoppered, 6d.; 25 gm. or 1 OZ., corked, 3\(\frac{1}{2}\)d.; stoppered, 7\(\frac{1}{2}\)d.; 5 gm. or 2 OZ., corked, 4d.; stoppered, 9d. each; 100 gmm. and over included in price; tubes, per 100, 5 gm., 10S. 6d.; 10 gm., 12S. 3d.; 15 gm., 14S.

ASPIRIN TABLETS.—The scale of prices for bulk quantities is as follows: Under 5,000, 3s. 1½d.; 5,000, 2s. 11½d.; 10,000, 2s. 10½d.; 25,000, 2s. 8½d.; 50,000, 2s. 7½d.; 100,000, 2s. 6½d.; 250,000, 2s. 6d.; 500,000, 2s. 5½d.;

1,000,000, 2s. $4\frac{1}{2}d.$; 2,000,000, 2s. $3\frac{1}{2}d.$ per 1,000. All bulk sales are subject to re-sale clause.

Barbitone.—Dealers' prices are as follows: Spot, one cwt., 22s. per lb.; 28 lb., 23s.; smaller quantities, up to 26s., ex store.

BISMUTH SALTS.—Makers' scales of prices per lb. continue steady as

			Under 4 lb.	4 lb. and under 8 lb.	8 lb. and under 28 lb.	28 lb. and under 1 cwt.	Not less than r cwt.
Carbonate Citrate Nitrate, crys Oxide Salicylate Subchloride	t.	 	 s. d. 11 3 13 4 7 7 15 4 11 9 14 11	s. d. 10 9 12 10 7 1 14 10 11 3 14 5	s. d. 10 0 12 1 6 4 14 1 10 6 13 8	s. d. 8 7 10 4 5 7 12 0 9 0 11 8	s. d. 8 4 10 1 5 4 11 9 8 9 11 5
Subgallate Subnitrate	::	 	 9 11	9 5	10 8 8 8	9 2 7 6	8 II 7 3

Rebate of threepence per lb. allowed off r-cwt. prices on sales of not less than 2 cwt., or against contracts of not less than 2 cwt., provided whole of contract quantity is ordered within three months. Prices net. Payments in fourteen days. For quantities of 28 lb. and upwards in the home trade, an extra charge of threepence per lb. is made for r-lb. cartons and r-lb. parcels, and it is a condition of re-sale that this extra charge shall apply even when repacking into 1-lb. cartons or 1-lb. parcels is effected by the purchaser. Smaller quantities than 28 lb. are not subject to this extra charge. Under present conditions all prices and sale conditions are named without engagement.

Borax (B.P.).—Makers' prices are steady: Granulated, £31; crystals, £32; powder, £32 10s. per ton, in 1-cwt. bags, carriage paid in Great Britain, for minimum one-ton lots. Commercial quality, £8 per ton less.

Boric Acid (B.P.).—Makers' prices unchanged: Granulated, £45 ios.; crystals, £46 ios.; powder, £47 ios. per ton, in cwt. bags, carriage paid in Great Britain, for minimum one-ton lots. Commercial qualities, £8 per ton less.

Bromides.—Makers' scales of prices steady. Potassium, B.P., not less than 5 cwt., 2s. 2d. per lb.; 1 cwt., 2s. 3d.; 28 lb., 2s. 9½d. Sodium, B.P., not less than 5 cwt., 2s. 4½d. per lb.; 1 cwt., 2s. 5½d.; 28 lb., 3s. Ammonium, B.P.C., not less than 5 cwt., 2s. 5½d. per lb.; 1 cwt., 2s. 5½d.; 28 lb., 3s. Id. Net. Rise-and-fall and re-sale clauses apply. Without engagement. Special prices for larger quantities. 28-lb. parcels and 1-cwt. cases or kegs free.

CALCIUM LACTATE.—Market is quiet. Makers continue to quote up to 18. 8d. per lb. for small lots.

CITRIC ACID.—Makers report there is no change in their nominal quotation of is. 2d. per lb., less 5 per cent. discount. Dealers' price would be about is. 6d. per lb., for any available material.

CREAM OF TARTAR.—Makers report their nominal quotation continues at 147s. per cwt., less $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. discount for home trade; supplies are restricted to regular consumer customers.

Creosote (Beechwood).—Dealers are quoting bulk quantities, in 25-kilo demijohns, at about 6s. upwards per lb.

EMETINE HYDROCHLORIDE.—Makers continue to quote at from 100s. to 104s. per oz., according to quantity.

ETHERS (METHYLATED).—Makers' scales of prices continue unchanged:—

						Winchester	Not le	ss than	Drums,	
Spe	Specific Gravity and Grade						6 w. qts., per lb.	12 w. qts., per lb.	per lb.	
						s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	
0.750						I 4½	I 4	I 3½	I 21/2	
0.735						I 5	I 4½	I 4	I 3	
0.730						1 5		I 4	1 3	
0.725						17	I 4½ I 6½	1 6	I 5	
0.725, triply	rectif	fied				1 11½	III	· I IO1	I 9½	
0.720						I 8	I 7½	1 7	1 6	
0.717						2 2	2 11	2 I	2 0	
0.720 B.P.,	not fo	r anæs	thesia	• •		1 10	I 9½	19	1 8	

Net prices, usual terms. Special prices for quantities and contracts, subject to rise-and-fall clause. Prices for anæsthetic ethers unchanged.

GUAIACOL CARBONATE.—Limited inquiry. Makers and dealers continue to quote at from 12s. 6d. to 13s. per lb., ex store, as to quantity.

Guaiacol (Crystals).—Makers are quoting from 10s. 9d. to 11s. 6d. per lb. according to quantity. Liquid, from 10s. 6d. upwards, according to quantity. HEXAMINE,—Values steady, fair demand, with free-running crystals quoted

at from 2s. 1d. to 2s. 3d. per lb., ex store, as to quantity. Powder at cheaper

Iodides.—Makers' prices continue unchanged: Potassium, B.P., not less IODIDES.—Makers' prices continue unchanged: Potassium, B.P., not less than I cwt., 8s.; 28 lb., 8s. 6d.; 14 lb., 9s.; 7 lb., 10s. 2d.; 4 lb., 10s. 8d.; smaller quantities, 11s. 2d. per lb. Sodium, B.P., not less than 28 lb., 8s. 10d.; 14 lb., 9s. 4d.; 7 lb., 10s. 9d.; 4 lb., 11s. 5d.; smaller quantities, 12s. 3d. per lb. Iodine, B.P., resub., not less than I cwt., 9s. 2d.; 28 lb., 9s. 7d.; 14 lb., 10s. 2d.; 7 lb., 11s. 7d.; 4 lb., 12s. 3d.; smaller quantities, 13s. per lb. Iodifororm, B.P. (cryst., precip. or powder), not less than 28 lb., 11s. 4d.; 14 lb., 11s. 10d.; 7 lb., 13s. 9d.; 4 lb., 14s. 7d.; smaller quantities, 15s. 5d. per lb. Contracts for I cwt. and upwards (assorted if desired) for delivery as required during three months, with the following clause: Price applicable to any delivery is that in force on date of dispatch. One-cwt. cases charged extra; 28-lb. tins 2s. each and non-returnable. All bottles charged for but credited in full if received back carriage-paid in good condition within three months. Carriage paid on any quantity. Assorted quantities charged for at collective total prices on orders for 14 lb. and upwards. It is a condition of sale that buyers undertake not to re-sell any quantity at prices or terms below scale for such quantity current at time re-sale is made.

Lactic actic (B.P.).—Fair business. Quantities, in 1-cwt. carboys, about is. 8½d. per lb.; in winchesters and bottles, about is. 9d. to 2s. per lb., ex store, according to quantity.

MERCURIALS.—Controlled prices for these salts continue unchanged:—

Mercury Compound	1		Ov 7 lb. less 28	but than	28 l and o but l tha	over less in	and but th	wt. over less an wt.	2 c and but th	over less an	5 C	wt. over
Bichloride, powder		::	s. 12 12 13 14 14 15 16 16	2	14 14 14 16 15 All qu	10	15	3 3 10 2 0 7 4 10 -15s.	14 16 15 6d. p	8	12 11 12 13 13 14 16 15	6 7 5 4 1

Packages free for quantities of 28 lb. and over; delivery free on orders of £20 and over.

MERCURY IODIDES.—Makers' prices per lb. arc steady as follows: Red, less than 7 lb., 17s. 8d.; not less than 7 lb., 17s. 4d.; not less than 14 lb., 16s. 1od. Green, less than 7 lb., 19s. 6d.; not less than 7 lb., 19s. 2d.; not less than 14 lb., 18s. 8d. Yellow, less than 7 lb., 21s. 3d.; not less than 7 lb., 20s. 1rd.; not less than 14 lb., 20s. 5d. net, carriage paid.

METHYL SULPHONAL.—Not much business passing; a small supply on spot

is valued at between 40s. and 42s. 6d. per lb., ex store.

PARALDEHYDE.—Spot prices are at about 11d. to 1s. per lb., in one-cwt. carboys, according to quantity.

PHENACETIN.—Makers' prices for ordinary quantities are at about 3s. 9d. to 4s. per lb., without engagement. Dealers' prices continue firm at from 7s. 6d. to 7s. 9d. per lb.

PHENAZONE.—Bulk quantities would be worth about 17s. 6d. per lb.; small parcels, up to 22s. per lb., ex store.

Phenolphthalein.—Steady at makers' prices: Less than 7 lb., 3s. 8d. per lb.; 7 lb., 3s. 7d.; 14 lb., 3s. 6d.; 28 lb., 3s. 5d.; one cwt., 3s. 4d. Potassium permanganate.—Makers' prices continue at the levels recorded

last week:-

					в.Р.	Quality	Technical		
		nimum ivery of			In 1-cwt. drums	In 5-cwt. drums	In 1-cwt. drums	In 5-cwt. drums	
						Per lb.	Per cwt.	Per cwt.	
				s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.		
I cwt. up					I 51/2	-	161 6		
3 cwt. up					I 5		157 O		
5 cwt. up					I 42	I 44	154 6	152 0	
I ton up					I 4½	1 41	152 0	149 6	
4 tons up				• •	I $4\frac{1}{2}$	1 4	149 6	147 3	

Terms: Net, delivered nearest railway station in Great Britain; drums extra and returnable. Quinine.—Quotations for sulphate were recently advanced from

American dollars to 59.85 American dollars per 100 oz. f.o.b. Java. The sterling quotation on current exchange rate for sulphate is now £14 17s. 5d. per 100 oz., f.o.b. Java, representing an advance of 2d. per oz.

RESORCIN.—Makers' prices are unchanged. Not less than 7 lb., 7s. 3d. per lb.; not less than 14 lb., 7s.; not less than 56 lb., 6s. rod.; not less than 1 cwt., 6s. 9d. Dealers' prices for any spot material available would be about 8s. 6d. to 9s. per lb.

SACCHARIN.—Convention price for 550 material continues at 98s. 4d. per lb., duty paid, with supplies limited. No Government control on wholesale or retail prices.

Salicylic acid (B.P.).—Makers' scales of prices are as follows:—

In containers of	ı lb.	2 lb.	4 lb.	7 lb.	14 lb.	28 lb.
Under 4 lb. 4 lb. and under 7 lb. 7 lb. and under 14 lb. 12 lb. and under 28 lb. 28 lb. and under 1 cwt. 1 cwt. and under 5 cwt. 5 cwt. and under 1 ton 1 ton	 s. d. 2 7½ 2 6½ 2 6½ 2 4½ 2 3½ 1 11½ 1 10	s. d. 2 6 2 5 2 4 2 3 2 2 1 10 1 9½ 1 8½	s. d. 2 488 2 2 388 2 2 188 2 1 98 1 98 1 88	s. d. 2 3½ 2 2½ 2 1½ 1 9½ 1 8¾ 1 7¾	s. d. 	s. d.

* 8 \times 14 lb. and upwards, in one delivery, $\frac{1}{2}$ d. lb. less.

Prices include parcels or collapsible cartons; other packages charged extra. Can be assorted with sodium salicylate. Prices are quoted subject to undertaking on part of buyer not to re-sell any quantities at prices or terms below scale current at time re-sale is made.

SALOL.—Prices continue firm at from 6s. 9d. to 7s. per lb., according to

Santonin.—Convention prices are as follows: 15 kilo and over, £35 10s.; not less than 10 kilo, £36 5s.; not less than 5 kilo, £37; less than 5 kilo, £38 per kilo, delivered free in the U.K.; 1-kilo tins free.

SODIUM BARBITONE.—Current quotations are as follows: One cwt., 238per lb.; 28 lb., 24s.; smaller quantities, 27s. per lb., ex store.

Sodium benzoate.—Market steady. Spot, in small supply, quoted at about 1s. 1od. to 2s. per lb.

STRYCHNINE SALTS.—British makers' prices per oz. are as follows:

Under 100 oz. 200 oz						LLCC	TLC TO	prices per oz. are		ОЩ) YY 3			
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$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$		s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.	S	
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$		2	8	2	7	2	6	Nitrate, powder				41	2	
$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$,, precipitated			2	7	2		,, ,, No. 2	1		1	10	I	
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$		2	$10\frac{1}{2}$	2	91	2	81	Phospbate	3	31/2	3	21	3	
Bisulphate 2 0½ 1 11½ 1 10½ Sulphate, neutral, Hydrocbloride 2 5½ 2 4½ 2 3½ powder 2 2 2 1 2 Hypophosphite 5 2 5 1 5 0 Sulphate, neutral,				2	8	2		Sulphate, neutral,			"	- 1		
Hydrochloride 2 $5\frac{5}{2}$ 2 $4\frac{1}{2}$ 2 $3\frac{5}{2}$ powder 2 2 1 2 Hypophosphite 5 2 5 1 5 0 Sulphate, neutral,		2	10½	2	91	2	81/2	crystalline	2	2	2	1	2	:
Hypophosphite 5 2 5 1 5 0 Sulphate, neutral,		2		1		I	102	Sulphate, neutral,						
		2	5호	2	$4\frac{1}{2}$	2	$3\frac{1}{2}$		2	2	2	1	2	:
Nitrate, crystalline . 2 5 2 4 2 3 powder No 2		5			I	5								
	Nitrate, crystalline	2	$5\frac{1}{2}$	2	$4\frac{1}{2}$	2	$3\frac{1}{2}$	powder No. 2	1	9	I	8	I	

25-oz. containers and outer cases free; smaller packages extra. Contracts may be book for quantities of 100 oz. and over, with rise-and-fall clause, for a period of six months. Ten net thirty days. Wholesale distributors' prices for small quantities would be dearer.

TARTARIC ACID (B.P. CRYSTALS).—Makers' advise their quotation, which continues nominal, is 2s. 0½d. per lb., less 5 per cent. discount; supplies a reserved for regular consumer customers. Foreign material, in small suppl would be worth about 3s. 2d. to 3s. 3d. per lb.

Vanillin.—Makers' prices continue unchanged: Ex clove oil or guaiaco five cwt., 14s. 6d. per lb.; one cwt., 14s. 7½d.; 56 lb., 14s. 9d.; less tha 56 lb., 15s. carriage paid in the United Kingdom.

Crude Drugs, etc.

These markets have been generally quiet throughout the week. Some produc have been in good routine demand, however, and prices are mostly keeping fully steady.

Aconite Root.—Spot material, if available, would be worth about 140 per cwt., ex store.

AGAR.—A steady home trade demand has been experienced this week wit quotations maintained at former figures. Spot, Kobe No. 1, about 8s. 3d. pt lb.; Kobe No. 2, about 8s., and Yokohama No. 1, about 7s. 10½d. per lb all duty paid, ex warehouse. Japanese shippers are still not offering.

Aloes.—Curação has been in rather good demand during the past week ar spot is valued at between 275s. and 300s. per cwt., ex store, according quantity. No further shipment offers are reported from America. Car continues steady at about 57s. 6d. to 60s. per cwt. on spot. Zanzibar, leave would be worth about 90s. per cwt., ex store, if available.

Antimony.—Market steady. English 99 per cent., £90 per ton, delivered foreign regulus, £90 to £93 per ton, duty paid; Chinese regulus, quoted £90 to £92 per ton, ex warehouse, London.

Balsams.—Business steady; values maintained. *Tolu* is reported in sho supply and is quoted at 9s. 6d. per lb. *Canada* is valued at about 5s. 6d. pe lb., and *Copaiba*, Para, about 3s. 6d. to 3s. 9d. *Peru* is worth about 7s. 9d. pe lb. All duty paid.

Belladonna.—Supplies of both root and leaves are scarce, and spe quotations are nominal.

Benzoin.—An ordinary routine trade is passing in this product at un changed prices. Sumatra, spot, is quoted at between £5 10s. and £6 15 per cwt., according to quality.

BISMUTH METAL.—Quoted unchanged at one dollar 25 cents per lb., e

Buchu.—Business has been slow and small this week; values are unchanged Spot, new-crop, about 2s. 8d. to 3s. per lb., according to quality.

Camphor.—A quiet steady business passing, Japanese, spot, tablets, no much left, about 6s. 3d. per lb.; slabs, about 5s. 4d.; and powder, abou 5s. 5d. per lb. Continental synthetic powder, 5s. 3d.; tablets, 5s. 6d. per lb ex store. English refined, quoted as follows: Flowers, one cwt., 5s. 9d 28 lb., 5s. rod.; less than 28 lb., 5s. rid. per lb. Transparent tablets, \(\frac{1}{4}\)-oz one cwt., 6s. 3d.; 28 lb., 6s. 4d.; less than 28 lb., 6s. 5d. per lb.

Cantharides.—Market continues quiet. Chinese flies are quoted at between 4s. 3d. and 4s. 6d. per lb., duty paid, and Russian, if available, would be valued at about 6s. per lb., duty paid.

Cardamoms.—Market quiet; quotations unchanged. Ceylon, spo between 3s. 6d. and 5s. per lb., according to quality; Bombay seed, abou 4s. 6d. per lb.; Mangalore seed, about 4s. 3d.; Aleppy greens, about 3s. 2c

Cascara sagrada.—Moderate business passing in the older peels at price ranging from 87s, 6d, to 97s, 6d, according to age. 1949 peel is quoted a about 65s. per cwt., c.i.f., but no recent business is reported at this figure.

Cascarilla.—Dealers are quoting about 1s. 6d. per lb. for good silvery qui and about 1s. 4d. per lb. for siftings.

Chamomiles.—Medium-quality flowers, if available, would be valued a

approximately 400s, per cwt. CHILLIES.—Mombasa quoted at about 125s. to 127s. 6d. per cwt.; other

varieties at lower prices.

CLOVES.—Market steady. Spot, Zanzibar advanced by \daggedd. to 9d.; shir ment, August-September, 9d. per lb., c.i.f.; Madagascar quiet and unchange at 8d. per lb., in bond, sellers.

COCOA BUTTER.—The spot value of prime English is quoted slightly higher at is. 11d. per lb., duty paid, ex wharf; foreign, unchanged at is. 11d. per lb duty paid, ex store London.

COCONUT (DESICCATED).—Market continues firm and a fair business is reported. Fine is quoted on spot at 37s. 6d. per cwt., and medium at 35s. 6d per cwt., scllers.

Colocynth.—Not much inquiry; value would be about is. 8d. to 2s. pe lb., according to quality.

DANDELION ROOT.—There are no spot quotations and no stocks are left in irst hands. The autumn-dug domestic crop will be available shortly.

Derris root.—Some business is reported done in root testing 5 per cent. otenone at 1s. 1d. per lb. Root testing about 18 per cent. ether extract is alued at about 8d. per lb.

Ergot.—Forward quotations for Spanish-Portuguese are about unchanged on last week's figures at 7s. 9d. to 8s. per lb., c.i.f., for August-September hipment. Spot would be worth about 9s. to 9s. 6d. per lb., although higher are being quoted in some quarters.

GAMBOGE.—Good quality Siam pipe continues to be valued at between £25 and £26 per cwt., duty paid. Inquiry is fair.

GENTIAN—Small quantities of root are reported available for which about 180s. per ewt. is being asked.

GINGER.—West African shows a further advance on spot to 34s. per cwt.; shipment, August—September, continues nominal, c.i.f. Jamaican, spot, small nedium, 50s.; bold, in barrels, 85s. per cwt., ex store. Cochin, unwashed, 5s. per cwt., ex store; shipment, 33s. per cwt., c.i.f.

Gum acacia.—Kordofan cleaned sorts continues to be quoted on spot at

about 87s. 6d. per cwt.; shipment is nominal.

Henna.—This market has become somewhat difficult and dealers are quoting leaves at prices ranging between 60s. and 80s. per cwt., ex store, for any material available.

HONEY.—Market continues quiet but firm, with stocks of all descriptions limited. Jamaican is quoted on spot at between 90s. and 105s. per cwt., nominal.

Hydrastis.—Business has been quiet. Good-test root is valued on spot at about 22s. 6d. per lb.; untested material would be worth about 19s. per lb.

IPECACUANHA.—The Minas variety continues in good demand and spot is quoted at about 11s. 6d. to 12s. 6d. per lb., according to test and seller; shipment, August-September, about 7s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f. Good-test Matto Grosso is firmly held at about 24s. to 26s. per lb., ex store; shipment, August-September, about 21s. to 22s. per lb., c.i.f. Ext. IPECAC. L10., 35s. 6d. per lb. for minimum lots of twelve winchesters.

LAVENDER FLOWERS.—Very small quantities of good blue flowers are

reported available at about 2s. per lb.

LOBELIA HERB.—About 10d. per lb. is quoted by dealers for spot supplies. MENTHOL.—Chinese in fair demand. Spot, about 15s. od, to 16s. 3d. per lb. duty paid, according to brand; shipment, August-September, about 14s. 3d. per lb., c.i.f. Japanese is quoted at between 21s. and 22s. per lb., c.i.f., but there are few buyers at these prices.

MERCURY.—No change in quotations; market steady. The price quoted ex warehouse London per bottle of 34.5 kilos is £54 10s., without engagement

and subject to confirmation.

ORANGE PEEL.—Some bitter quarters are reported available on spot at about 1s. 1od. per lb., ex store; thin-cut is valued at between 3s. and 3s. 4d. per lb.

PEPPER.—Market firm. Lampong, in bond, spot, advanced to 3\frac{3}{8}d. per lb.; shipment, August-September, 2\frac{1}{3}d., nominal, c.i.f. Tellicherry, spot, 4\frac{1}{3}d.; shipment, August-September, 34s. per cwt., c.i.f. Aleppy, spot, 4\frac{1}{3}d.; shipment, August-September, 34s. per cwt., c.i.f. White Muntok, spot, dutypaid, 5\frac{1}{3}d.; in bond, 5d. sellers; shipment, August-September, 4\frac{1}{3}d. per lb., nominal, c.i.f.

PIMENTO.—Market firm; spot again quoted dearer at 112d. per lb., sellers; shipment, August-September, new-crop, 85s. per cwt., sellers, c.i.f.

Pyrethrum.—Dealers are quoting in the region of 180s. to 190s. per cwt.,

QUILLAIA BARK.—Spot supplies are quoted at around 85s. per cwt., ex store. Rhubarb.—This market continues quite steady, with a fair business passing. Three-quarters pinky is valued on spot at about 4s. 10 d. per lb., duty paid, with rather better quality up to about 5s. per lb., duty paid. Some Shensi recently landed is quoted at about 7s. 9d. per lb., duty paid, for best quality and about 6s. 9d. for pickings.

quality and about 6s. 9d. for pickings.

Rubber.—Market closed quiet; small business passing. Standard ribbed smoked sheet, spot, 13d.; August, 1376d.; September, 13d.; October-December, 13d.; January-March, 128d.; April—June, 12d. per lb.

Seeds.—Anise.—Spot, Bulgarian, 95s. duty paid and 90s. in bond. Canary.—Spot, Morocco quoted at 40s., duty paid. Caraway.—Spot, Dutch, 160s., duty paid. Coriander.—Spot, Morocco quoted at 37s. 6d. duty paid and 35s. 6d. in bond, ex wharf London; ex store Liverpool quoted at 35s. duty paid and 34s. in bond. Cumin.—Spot, Cyprus quoted at 125s., duty free. Dill.—Spot, Indian, 45s., ex store Liverpool. Fennel.—Spot, Indian, 55s.; Iran, 52s. 6d. to 55s., duty paid. Fenugreek.—Spot, Morocco, 21s. duty paid and 20s. in bond, ex London or Liverpool. Mustard.—Spot, medium qualities, 62s. to 65s.; fine white, 66s. to 70s.

62s. to 65s.; fine white, 66s. to 70s.

Senega.—This market is considerably firmer with most holders of spot material asking up to about 3s. 9d. per lb. Forward quotations for August—

September shipment are now up to 3s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f.

Senna.—The position of this market is unchanged and quotations are maintained at the levels recorded last week. Best pale hand-picked Tinnevelly pods quoted at roåd. per lb., with darker grades at between 6¼d. and 7¼d.; f.a.q., 5¼d. per lb.; leaves, about 8¾d. for No. 1, 5½d. for No. 2, and 4½d. for No. 3. Hand-picked Alexandrian continue in short supply and values are nominal.

SHELLAC.—Market quiet. Standard TN orange nominal on the spot; pure button, 102s. 6d.; fine orange, 105s. to 150s. per cwt.

TAMARINDS.—Dealers are asking about 38s. per cwt. for West Indian, ex store.

TRAGACANTH.—Market steady with quotations for most varieties unchanged. Finest selected white ribbon, £90; No. 1, white, £85; No. 2, white, £70; No. 3, white, £55; pale leaf, £30; amber leaf, £22; red leaf, from £10 10s.; woody and hoggy, from £5. All prices are per cwt., ex store.

TURMERIC.—Spot, Madras and Rajapore finger quoted at 42s. 6d. No business passing at this figure.

Valerian root.—No quotations are available and stocks in first hands have been cleared.

WAXES.—Bees'.—Market steady; moderate business. Spot, from 170s.; in bond, 155s.; shipment, Dar-es-Salaam, 155s. per cwt., c.i.f. Japanese, first three brands, spot, 120s., duty paid; 110s. in bond; shipment, 110s., c.i.f. Carnauba.—Fatty grey, 350s.; ehalky grey, spot, 330s.; Primeira, spot, 450s.

Essential and Expressed Oils, etc.

Business in these markets has been quiet during the week with most orders of a routine character. Anise (star) has been in rather better demand. Bay, bois de rose and cassia are all firm markets. Peppermint has sold fairly well.

ALMOND.—Market is steady; fair spot business. Expressed, about 3s. 8d. to 3s. 11d. per lb., in ewt. lots; smaller quantities, up to about 4s. 3d. per lb., ex store. Genuine French bitter is quoted at about 14s. to 15s. per lb., ex store

ANISE (STAR).—A fair spot demand this week probably due to a desire on the part of buyers to anticipate winter requirements. Spot, tins in cases, firm at about 4s. 6d. per lb.; drums, about 4s. 4d. No shipment offers.

Avocado Pear.—Market steady and unehanged. Spot, between 55s. and 57s. per gall., delivered; smaller quantities at higher prices.

BAY.—Market firm. Spot, about 5s. 6d. to 6s. per lb., ex store, according to quality.

Bergamot.—No quotations available; value would have to be negotiated. Bois de Rose.—In small supply and quoted firm. Spot, between ros. 6d.

and IIS. per lb. Shipment, in the region of 9s. to 9s. 3d. per lb., c.i.f., in drums. Cassia.—Market very firm and stocks limited. Spot, if available, would be worth about 6s. 3d. to 6s. 6d. per lb. There are no shipment offers.

CITRONELLA.—Spot values are well maintained. Java, spot, from 2s. 6d. to 3s. per lb.; shipment, about 1s. 9d. per lb., c.i.f. Ceylon, spot, 2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d. per lb., in drums; small quantities, up to about 3s. per lb.; shipment, about is, $6\frac{1}{2}$ d, per lb.

Clove.—Madagascar, steady at about 5s. 6d. npwards per lb., in drums, if available. English distilled, firm at about 7s. to 7s. 3d. per lb., according to quantity.

EUCALYPTUS.—Steady business passing on spot. 70 to 75 per eent. oil continues to be quoted at about 4s. to 4s. 6d. per lb., according to holder; shipment prices are nominal at about 3s. per lb., c.i.f.

GERANIUM.—About 30s, per lb. still represents the nominal value of both Bourbon and Algerian oils, and would be a likely price as a basis for negotiation. There are no shipment offers available.

GRAPEFRUIT.—The value of genuine Californian oil would be about 12s. 6d. per lb., and genuine Florida about 11s. 6d. per lb.

LEMON.—No quotations are available for this oil, and values of handpressed would have to be negotiated. Californian distilled is quoted at about ios. per lb. nominal; there are no shipment prices available for cold-pressed.

Lemongrass.—Spot is quoted at about 4s. to 4s. 6d. per lb.; shipment up to about 3s. per lb., c.i.f.

Lime.—Genuine West Indian continues to be quoted at about 30s. per lb., with other qualities at lower prices.

LINSEED.—The controlled price for large bulk quantities of crude, naked ex works, is unchanged at the recent reduction to £44 per ton. Distributors' prices for ordinary quantities of crude or boiled, packed and carriage paid, would be at higher figures.

Neroli.—The pure French oil, if available, would be valued at about 80s. per oz.

OLIVE.—The Ministry of Food controlled price paid by importers for large bulk quantities in 50-gall. drums is unchanged. Distributors' prices for a few gallons, packed in gallon tins, carriage paid, now range from 12s. 6d. to 13s. 6d. per gall., according to quantity.

Orange.—Although the market is slow, values are about steady. French Guinea oil, about 6s. to 6s. 6d. per lb., according to quantity. Some Rhodesian oil is reported available at about 8s. 3d. per lb. Californian is quoted in sterling at 4s. rod. per lb., in small drums, ex store, duty paid, limited supplies only being available.

Otto of Rose.—The spot value of Bulgarian would be in the region of 60s. to 70s. per oz.

Palmarosa.—Firm and unchanged. Spot, approximately 12s. 6d. per lb., ex store; shipment, about 10s. 6d. per lb., ci.i.f.

Peppermint.—Both the Japanese and Chinese oils have been in good demand this week, and values are about unchanged. Japanese, spot, about 9s. 6d. per lb. Chinese, spot, between 7s. and 7s. 3d. per lb.; shipment, August—September, offered at 6s. 3d. per lb., subject to freight being available. American natural oil, steady at 14s. 3d., in drums, and 14s. 6d. in tins in cases, c.i.f. Spot, steady at about 16s. per lb., ex store.

Petitgrain.—Spot continues to be well held at about 10s. 6d. to 12s. 6d. per lb., nominal; no shipment offers available.

ROSEMARY.—Spanish oil is valued on spot at about 5s. 6d. per lb., ex store; shipment, about 4s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f.

Sandalwood.—Genuine East Indian Mysore, in one-case lots, 19s. per lb. East Indian, produced outside the province of Mysore, 18s. per lb. for bulk quantities. English-made West Indian, 15s. per lb.; Australian, one-ease lots, 16s., and five-cwt. lots, 15s. 6d. per lb.

SPIKE.—Market firm. Spanish, good quality, is quoted at between ros. and 12s. per lb., ex store; shipment, about 10s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f.

VETIVERT.—Bourbon, spot, quoted at about 35s. per lb.; Java, about 30s. per lb., ex store.

Wormseed.—Steady and unchanged. Spot, about 24s. 6d. per lb.; shipment, about 23s. per İb., c.i.f.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondents may adopt an assumed name, but must in all cases furnish their real name and address to the Editor

Preparing for the Future

SIR,—It is obvious that the future and post-war conditions in pharmacy will show vast and fundamental changes almost beyond the conceptions held at present. Pharmacists, as members of a reserved occupation and exempt as a majority in any circumstances, have a particular responsibility in giving the lead to other organisations. Unless we can realise the implications of a complete reorganisation from within there is a distinct possibility that outside authorities will dictate a programme far from satisfactory and retard the process of transformation. The apathy shown by pharmacists over the past many years will be dissipated by the coming economic changes and it is up to those far-seeing individuals, who can visualise greater prospects and tremendous improvements in the profession, to prepare for action. Already there are signs on the professional horizon and while we have nothing to lose in the past conception of an unremunerative and exploited calling we have everything to gain in a new status and complete economic security. Yours faithfully, R. Gunn. London, N. 9.

Scottish Insurance Dispensing Fees

SIR,—Your correspondent "Onlooker" (C. & D., August 17, p. 96) puts forward very sound arguments regarding Scottish National Health Insurance dispensing fees; the basic rate of fee must be increased and there must be no shilly-shallying by the Standing Committee on this matter. It is equally imperative that the question of the forty-eight and upwards dose prescriptions be dealt with at the same time. Over the last eight years I have kept very careful note of this type of Insurance prescription and the loss of fees due to this is, I find, about £400 or roughly equal to £1 per week. Some typical prescriptions may be quoted:—

Insulin and liver extract are always prescribed in quantities sufficient to last the patient at least a month instead of a week. The loss of fees on prescriptions is considerable, yet so far the Standing Committee have done nothing to redress the chemist's "raw deal." I would suggest that the new fees be fixed for a week's supply of medicine and quantities in excess of a week's supply should carry an additional fee to compensate the chemist for loss of frequency.—Yours faithfully, Pharma (19/8).

Chemists' Assistants

SIR,—May I reply to "Xrayser" (C. & D., August 17, p. 79) that in visualising the possibility of a grade of certified assistants I had not in mind the granting of legal permission to conduct business in the temporary absences of their principals, but rather the discontinuance of a system which permits persons without any preliminary training to be employed in chemists' shops, and, further, allows anyone who has worked in a pharmacy in any capacity for however short a time to describe himself as a chemist's assistant, if he so chooses. I believe that many chemists regret the introduction into pharmacy of so many youths who have no intention of taking the qualifying examination. These youths acquire a superficial knowledge of the work of the pharmacy by reason of handling and packing ordinary drugs, possibly, also of simple dispensing, and are then inclined to consider themselves competent assistants. They are not thoroughly trained and some of them may develop into drug store proprietors. By arranging that assistants should have passed the Intermediate examination and have served a regular apprenticeship, it would ensure that they had received reasonable training, even if they were unable to obtain the full qualification. It would at any rate put an end to the influx of young people of both sexes who have no real interest in pharmacy as a profession. Under a system of certified assistants a small shop would have to employ no others, but this would be an advantage really, as all the staff would be trained to do every kind of work. In the drug department of a store assistants from other counters would not be interchangeable and would not be allowed to serve drugs. Yours faithfully, AIDANS (17/8).

The Old Story

SIR,—The percentage of passes in the July whole examinations of the Pharmaceutical Society at the two centres, and given below, are interesting.

ŭ.	London	Edinburgh
Preliminary Scientific	29.0%	49.0%
Chemist and Druggist	37.3%	49'4%

Regularly this disquieting state of affairs returns, and it would seem that no one dare tackle the matter.—Yours faithfully,

C. AND D. (6/8).

MISCELLANEOUS INOUIRIES

We do not undertake to analyse and report upon proprietary articles nor to publish supposed formulas for them

Polishing Powders for Metals.—H. S. L. (27/6).—The followir will probably be satisfactory for your purpose:—

Kieselguhr	٠.	 	 80 parts
Tin oxide		 	 30 parts
Pipeclay		 	 30 parts
Tartaric acid		 	 3 parts
Powder and mix			

You might find that the kieselguhr in the above formula coul with advantage be replaced by tripoli.

Ear Plugs for Air Raids.—L. A. S. (7/7).—Ear plugs have bee on the market now many years, and their primary use has been t protect the ears of swimmers and divers from injury. There has als been a limited demand for them on the part of folk who sleep lightl in order to eliminate distracting noises. Ear plugs are of diverse types and as ears vary considerably in size, the most convenient types of plugs are those made of plastic material, which can be easily moulded to fit the ears. The plastic type of plugs generally consist of whit beeswax, powdered hard soap, soft white paraffin, etc., with a littl acriflavine, finished by rolling in cotton wool. The use of a powerful antiseptic, such as acriflavine, seems desirable to avoid the possibility of introducing noxious bacteria into the ear. Another type is composed of a mixture of a plastic clay and a fibrous material.

Brain and Nerve Food, P.F.6.—R. D. & S. (13/8).—We think tha what you have in mind is a formula given in "Pharmaceutical Formulas," 1921 edition, p. 916, which is as follows:—

Caffeinæ				 		3iv.
Syr. Eastor				 		₹x.
Chloroform	1	• •	• •	 		<u>3</u> iij
Syrupi				 		3xviij.
Liq. cocci				 		дij.
Aquam				 	ad	Z LXXX.

Dose: One to two tablespoonfuls.

Dental Preparations.—W. O. (7/7).—The following formulas were given in the "Journal of the American Pharmaceutical Association" (1940. 5. 199):—

Dental Abragina

	Den	iui zic	nusive		
Pulv. pumicis				 	gr. xx
Pulv. amyli				 	gr. iv.
Methyl. salicylat.				 	Μj.
Carmini				 	orl-

Add a few drops of glycerin or water to powder after taking from capsule.

Sig: Sprinkle sparingly on denture before placing in mouth.

Der	nture C	leaner		
Trisodii phosphatis			 	5 iv.
Olei cinnamomi	• •	• •	 • •	$\underset{7}{\mathbb{M}}$ v.

Sig: Dissolve ¼ teaspoonful in full glass water and use with brush Do not leave denture in solution overnight.

Temporary Cement

(a) Zinc oxide	 	 	 10.0
Thymol	 	 	 5.0

Melt thymol on water bath in porcelain evaporating dish. Add zinc oxide and rub to smooth paste in thin layer on sides of evaporating dish and cool. Remove with spatula. Keep in well closed bottle.

(b)	Zinc oxide			 		69.0
	White resin			 	• •	29.3
	Zinc stearate,	ın	powder	 		1.0
	Zinc acetate			 		0.7

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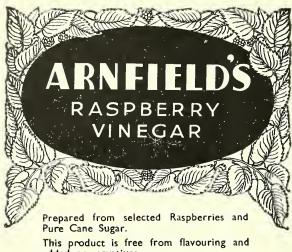
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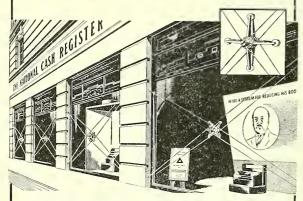
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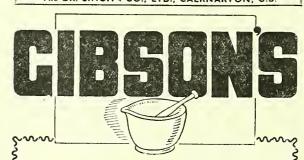
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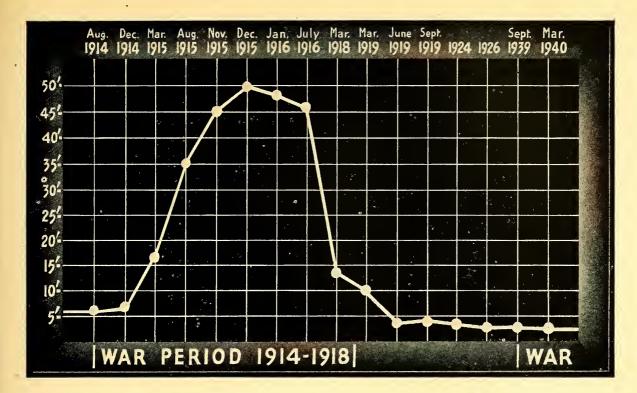
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